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OPINION METER

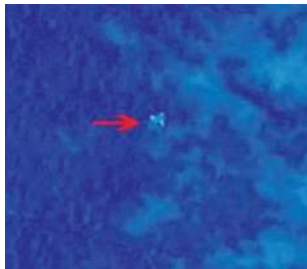
This week's poll:

The Marianas Economic Research and Development Foundation has launched a petition that asks: "Should casino gaming be authorized in the Third Senatorial District (Saipan)?" How would you answer this?

Let your voice be heard!
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to cast your vote.

INSIDE

ASIA



No signs of a missing jetliner were found at spot sighted by satellite images.

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Ukraine accuses Russia of conducting a military buildup near the border.

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LIFE & STYLE



"Jeopardy!" champion Arthur Chu has been defeated.

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CNMI deficit down to \$225.1M

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Amid political and economic controversies comes the good news: A newly released financial report shows that the CNMI government's audited net deficiency or deficit went down by 4.4 percent or from a restated \$235.4 million in fiscal year 2011 to \$225.1 million in fiscal year 2012 because of tourism growth, the elimination of the pension liability after reaching a retirement settlement deal, and a continued drop in government spending.

Prospects also appear bright for fiscal year 2013, the report says.

In previous years, the net deficit reached over \$300 million.

The retirement settlement agreement led mainly to the restatement of the net deficit to the \$200 million-plus mark.

These are contained in a March 2014 Deloitte report on the audit of the CNMI government's fiscal year 2012 financial statement, including the Department of Finance's management discussion and analysis. The Office of the Public Auditor contracted Deloitte for the audit report.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Polksai Chamorro Club's dance troupe and their coach gather for a group photo after winning gold at the 2014 Chamorro Language Competition in Guam this week. The group was hailed overall winner in the "Song with Dance" category, besting contenders from Guam.

MHS Chamorro Club bags gold in Guam contest

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Marianas High School's Polksai Chamorro Club was the big winner in the recently concluded Chamorro Language Competition at the University of Guam Field House, bringing home seven major awards in various categories.

This year, MHS sent a 17-member delegation to the annual competition that saw the participation of hundreds of students from the CNMI and Guam.

The group's adviser and language arts teacher, Anita Sablan, said yesterday that the Polksai Chamorro Club successfully bagged three gold medals, two silver medals, and two bronze medals in seven categories.

The two-day competition was held on March 10 and 11.

Individual winners were Zackery Yamagishi, who won a gold medal in the Speech category, and Raymond Nakazato, who was named champion in the Male Singer category.

The Polksai Chamorro Club was the overall winner in the Song with Dance

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Dems pick Deleon Guerrero-Quitugua

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

"More likely, there will be a runoff [election] and I assure you that the Democratic Party will be a part of it,"

From left, Democratic Party delegate candidate Andrew Salas, lieutenant governor candidate Daniel "Danny" O. Quitugua, and gubernatorial candidate Edward "Tofila" M. Deleon Guerrero, at last night's endorsement of their candidacies in Dandan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

said Edward "Tofila" M. Deleon Guerrero, moments after he was officially endorsed last night as the Democrats' candidate for governor in the November election. Also endorsed were former representative Daniel "Danny" O. Quitugua as lieutenant governor bet, and former Commerce secretary Andrew Salas as delegate candidate.

Benjamin M. Cepeda, chairman of the Democratic Party, presented the three official candidates last night at the party headquarters in Dandan, in the presence

See DEMS on Page 4

Local

Acting CHC financial chief steps down from the post

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

After more than a year of serving as interim chief financial officer of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Cora Ada has stepped down from the position. She is expected to go back to her old post at the Emergency Preparedness Office.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres confirmed this with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, saying this will take effect by the end of next month.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from both Ada and interim corporation CEO Esther Muña yesterday but they couldn't be reached as of press time.

The corporation hasn't had a permanent chief financial officer since Alvaro Santos resigned in 2012. Upon his departure, Ada was appointed by Muña as acting CFO. As such, she sits on the corporation's "governing body" with other members that include Muña, Medical Affairs director Dr. Sherleen Osman, and Dr. Norman Okamura.

According to Torres, Ada made known her decision this week. When asked about her replacement, he said Muña has yet to inform the board about their next step.

"We don't know yet who will replace her [Ada] because we haven't got an answer yet from the CEO," said Torres.

He reiterated yesterday the need to have a qualified CFO for the corporation and emphasized the vital role the individual will play in the financial goals of the agency.

Up to this date, no permanent CFO has been named to the post. The board intends to have one within a month or two.

At the Feb. 27 CHCC board meeting, members lambasted the corporation management for continuously submitting incomplete financial reports.

The board highlighted the mandates of Public Law 16-51 that requires the periodic submission to the board of financial documents for its review.

At that same board meeting, Muña endorsed the hiring of a candidate from Hawaii to become the hospital's CFO. She had said that she is convinced that the individual is capable of turning around the corporation's financial situation because of the individual's strong background in managing the finances of many healthcare systems in Hawaii.

Muña described the candidate as a retiree and might agree to come to the corporation on a special contract arrangement. *Saipan Tribune* learned that the candidate doesn't have a master's degree but possesses vast experience in handling the finances of healthcare systems.

Based on the job announcement made available for both local and off-island applicants, the corporation is proposing a two-year employment contract with a salary offer ranging from \$100,000 to \$150,000 per annum. The corporation received 32 applications.

Torres said yesterday there has been no update on the status of the hiring of a permanent CFO.

Saipan beaches get green flag

The Division of Environmental Quality analyzed water samples collected from Saipan's east and south recreational beaches this week as part of the regularly scheduled sampling. None of the samples collected contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) nor did they exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. DEQ assigns all sampled beach sites a green flag. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**



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FOR FORMER THE PALMS RESORT

E Land to reveal decision today: Sheraton or Hilton

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Whether E Land partners with Sheraton or Hilton, Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the more important matter is that the former The Palms Resort in San Roque will reopen as the CNMI needs more hotel rooms to accommodate a growing number of tourists while at the same time bringing another global hotel brand into the CNMI. To date, the Commonwealth only has Hyatt Regency for a global hotel brand.

"That's going to be a very significant announcement because not only will they announce that they are opening it up, but they are opening it up with a brand that is recognized worldwide. You are talking about five-star hotel brands, not just boutique hotels," Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

At 4:30pm today, South Korean-based investment giant E Land, through Micronesia Resort Inc., will announce whether they are partnering with global brand Sheraton or Hilton in reopening the former The Palms Resort.

The governor and lawmakers

are among those that E Land's MRI invited to the announcement, to be held at the St. Angelo Chapel at The Palms Resort.

E Land officials and the global hotel brand partner are also expected to share other information about their renovation plans for the 313-room hotel that E Land acquired in 2011.



Inos

If the one-year \$20 million to \$30 million renovation goes smoothly as planned, the hotel will reopen in the summer of 2015, E Land officials earlier said.

E Land's MRI is also working to bring another global hotel brand for its other hotel on Saipan, Coral Ocean Point, which is undergoing renovation and expansion.

E Land, which also owns Pacific Islands Club on Saipan, is also hoping that it would get the public land lease for a piece of property near PIC in San Antonio to build a new hotel with at least 200 rooms.

As of yesterday, the Department of Public Lands has yet to decide between E Land's MRI and Hong Kong-based Honest Profit for the San Antonio land lease.

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Unidentified person tries to burn Wang's house

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

An unidentified person or persons allegedly tried to burn Thursday night the house of Yu Hua Wang, the alleged sec-

ond in command of a group of methamphetamine or "ice" suppliers on Saipan.

A source disclosed that only the stairs of the house was burned.

Firefighters and police of-

ficers responded to the house, located in Dandan.

Last December, Wang won the \$50,000 pot money plus a trophy at a blackjack championship held at Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

On Monday, Wang and the alleged leader of the group, Xing Bo Fang, entered not-guilty pleas to the indictment charging them with conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and dis-

tribution of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. Wang also pleaded not guilty to a charge of distribution of methamphetamine.

Joint federal and local law enforcement teams arrested Wang and Fang and five other suspected "ice" suppliers on Feb. 20.

Three days later, a farmhouse

in As Gonno was set on fire, killing a Chinese couple.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero recently disclosed that investigators have so far no solid lead in the arson case, but that they are looking into the possible link in the arrest of seven men for alleged distribution of "ice."

MHS

From Page 1

category, besting contenders from Guam. The dance troupe is composed of 10 members: Davin Ada, Raymond Nakazato, Zackery Yamagishi, Jeffrey Babaut, Gregorio Muna, Edward Ogo, Angeline Orsini, Monica Lizama, Riannalyn Manabat, and Melisha Lizama.

According to L.J. Castro, who serves as the dance troupe's coach, the group's diligent rehearsals since January truly paid off.

The Polksai Chamorro Club is a consistent participant in the Guam competition and brings pride and honor to the Public School System and the Commonwealth each year.

"For many years, MHS Polksai Chamorro Club has done a pretty good job in this competition and we're very proud of our students," Castro told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

MHS was also successful in the Dramatic Cultural Interpretation category, where it bagged the silver medal this year. This group is composed of Gemma Somol, Monica Lizama, Meli-

sha Lizama, Jenalien Jonathan, Riannalyn Manabat, Shawn Hideos, David Muña, Raymond Nakazato, Franco Santos, and Fermin Renguul.

Melisha Lizama won a silver medal in the competition's Female Singer category.

The two bronze awards went to Monica Lizama in the Proficiency category and Gemma Somol in the Poetry Recitation category.

According to Castro, club members were able to meet key elected leaders and personalities in Guam during the competition.

Castro has been dedicated in

sharing his wealth of knowledge in Chamorro cultural dances, stories, and chants with the group.

"I can't think of any other best way to encourage our students to continue to care for their 'roots' than this competition. Language is the main element of our culture that we need to preserve and promote," he said.

Meantime, club adviser Sablan expressed gratitude to the following groups and individuals who contributed to the success of the club this year: Marianas High School, Public School System, parents and

guardian, community members, and Lumi Bermudes who is the PSS coordinator for the CCLHS program. The club members also expressed their appreciation for the financial support they received from St. Jude Renal Care, Tan Holdings, Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Sen. Ray Yumul (Ind-

Saipan), Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Chris Leon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan).

Sablan also recognized Alvin Sablan, Darwin Sablan, and Castro, who dedicated a tremendous amount of their time to prepare the delegates for the competition.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Zachery Yamagishi, who won a gold medal in the "Speech" category of the competition, pose with silver medalist Melisha Lizama, who won the award in the "Female Singer" category, after the awarding rites on Tuesday.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The silver medalists in the competition's "Dramatic Cultural Interpretation" category gather for a photo prior to their performance on Monday.

DEMS

From Page 1

of family members and supporters.

"The fight for survival, rights, and future security of our young children shall begin," Cepeda told the crowd.

The Democratic Party will later announce the rest of the slate of candidates including those for mayors, senators, and House members, he said.

Only four more slots need to be filled, Cepeda added.

The next Democratic Party meeting at their headquarters will be on April 3, Thursday, at 6pm.

Deleon Guerrero, a former Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director, said he is grateful for the Democratic Party for putting their trust in him, Quitugua, and Salas. Salas is so far the only one to challenge Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in the November race.

"We can make a difference,"

Deleon Guerrero told reporters.

In answering media questions, Deleon Guerrero said their priorities are to fix the economy, restore retirees' pension cut, secure the future of those whom he said were "forced" to withdraw their retirement contribution, and lower utility rates, among others.

Deleon Guerrero said the Democratic Party is "not against improved status" for long-term foreign workers. He said he is "very sensible about the contributions of people who have been here" for decades. He also said that no economy succeeds without the numbers.

His running mate, Quitugua, had been sending letters to the editor, expressing opposition to the inclusion of a CNMI-specific provision in national immigration reform bills still pending in U.S. Congress.

Quitugua, who also served as director of Labor's Hearing Division in 2006-2007, said he's being misunderstood by many. He said he is not against the Commonwealth-only worker

program, which is set to expire on Dec. 31, 2014, unless extended by the U.S. Department of Labor.

But Quitugua said the existing process of becoming U.S. citizens is working and has always worked, when asked specifically on whether he supports Kilili Sablan's CNMI-specific provisions in S. 744 and H.R. 15 allowing improved immigration status for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

Echoing Cepeda's statement, Deleon Guerrero said the Democratic Party was a strong political party in the '80s and that their hard work led to "a lot of the things we enjoyed in the '90s."

Cepeda, in his speech, said it was the Democratic Party that took the lead in exploring options to improve political and economic opportunities in the '50s to the '80s.

"It was the Democratic Party leadership that secured the political status the Commonwealth is guided by today. It was also during the Democratic Party's

two administrations when the Commonwealth government realized huge surplus of revenues, economic prosperity was felt throughout the Commonwealth, and our people were excited and positively hopeful," he said.

The Democratic Party's Deleon Guerrero-Quitugua tandem will be running against at least three other tickets.

They are Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) of the Republican Party; former House speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider and Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), running as independents; and former governor Juan N. Babauta and former senator Juan Sablan Torres, also Republicans whose request for a primary was shot down, but they have yet to decide whether they would still run.

With at least four gubernatorial teams, it would be tough to get at least 50 percent plus one of the votes cast in the November. This means the CNMI is headed for another runoff election.

DEFICIT

From Page 1

"For the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2012, the CNMI's total net deficiency decreased by \$10.3 million, to a net deficiency position of \$225.1 million, which represents a decrease of approximately 4.4 percent from the restated net deficiency position at the beginning of the year," Finance said.

The report says economic factors continue to play a large role in developing the tax and other revenue budgets for the CNMI's general fund.

"The local economy, expanding by the effects of an increase in tourism, has followed a trend of increasing revenues. The prospects for fiscal year 2013 appear similar," the report adds.

Lawmakers said yesterday they have yet to fully review the financial report so they could not comment on the findings yet.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, meanwhile, said he is about to submit his proposed fiscal year 2014 supplemental budget to the Legislature. This will be turned in ahead of his submission of his proposed fiscal year 2015 budget to the House and Senate, the deadline for which is April 1. The new budget plan could also be \$123.4 million.

Numbers

The audited fiscal year 2012 financial report says total revenues of \$241.3 million and total expenses of \$231 million resulted in the \$10.3 million decrease

in net deficiency.

"The results indicate the CNMI's financial condition, as a whole, improved in the current year compared to the previous two years. Significant changes from 2011 in the Statement of Activities include increases in income, gross receipts, excise, hotel and other taxes resulting from an increase in visitor arrivals to the CNMI and a surge in the tourism industry," the report says.

For budgetary reporting purposes, general fund revenues were higher than final estimates by 11.7 million, or 9.6 percent.

Reported actual expenditures, meanwhile, exceeded final estimated appropriations by \$2.1 million, or 1.8 percent.

These amounts do not include transfers to and from other funds, nor does it include the receipt or use of long-term debt proceeds.

The financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, customers and creditors with a general overview of the CNMI's finances and to show the CNMI's accountability for the money it receives, Finance said.

This also comes at a time when the CNMI plans to float a pension obligation bond, although there's no telling yet whether it would be \$60 million, \$80 million, or \$120 million. Also before the governor now is a major revenue-generating bill allowing casino gaming on Saipan. But the bill's language and the way it was handled at the Legislature are drawing community concerns.

Lawmakers cite remedies to Saipan casino bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Only a few of the 29 CNMI lawmakers who either voted “yes” or “no” to the Saipan casino bill have broken their silence to help address concerns on what some describe as a “faulty” measure, including calling for a joint leadership meeting with Gov. Eloy S. Inos before he acts on it, putting the question before Saipan voters once again, vetoing and “fixing” it then putting it to a vote once again, or signing it then amending it, among other things.

Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), one of the five senators who voted to pass the bill last week, said he prefers that the governor “call both the Senate and the House of Representatives and address his concern and what needs to be changed and sign the bill and we’ll amend it.”

“Easier and faster that way,” he said.

The governor has 40 days starting on March 10 or until around April 18 to act on the bill, or the bill automatically becomes law without his signature.

Inos said he won’t necessarily exhaust the 40-day deadline before acting on the bill, which he’s still reviewing as of yesterday.

“As soon as I’m ready, I will take action, whatever that action would be,” the governor told *Saipan Tribune*.

At this point, Inos said he has not taken a position yet, but has been pointing out some issues in the bill that he said he would like addressed if the bill is approved.

House vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), one of the six House members who voted against the bill’s passage,

said yesterday he would rather see “that this is put forth for the voters of Saipan and Northern Islands to decide.”

“My vote will always remain the same in the House,” said Dela Cruz, who consistently voted against casino bills in at least the past four years.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), among the 11 House members who voted “yes” to the bill’s passage, said he would “like to see the Executive [Branch] and the Legislature having its leadership [meeting] to discuss the issues” so that there would be a “unified” position on the matter.

For his part, Rep. Antonio Benavente (Ind-Saipan), among those who voted “yes” to pass the bill, said the governor “should sign it; then if it needs amendments, then so be it.”

Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) said he would rather have the governor veto the bill and put the question before voters once again.

“At a minimum, conduct a public hearing on the bill,” he said.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) shares the same sentiment of having the casino issue “go through the process of an initiative.” Villagomez voted against the bill’s passage.

He said if the governor signs the bill, it has to be “fixed,” taking into consideration public input. When public comments and inputs were taken into consideration and the bill is put to a vote once again, Yumul said he might change his vote to “yes.”

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), who voted against the casino bill’s passage, said last night that his vote remains the same, adding that he “highly respect the desire of the people of Saipan.”

“Let the majority of the people decide whether they want casino or not,” he added.

Saipan voters twice rejected a casino initiative; the last one was in 2007. Some lawmakers who support a casino bill said that “times have changed,” referring to the growing government obligations and the need to restore the 25-percent cut in retirees’ pension, among other things.

The Marianas Economic Research and Development Foundation, led by president and board chair Isidoro T. Cabrera, launched a signature drive to put the question on the ballot in November, while other concerned citizens such as Ed Propst are organizing a

forum to have lawmakers and the governor answer questions or clarify the provisions and intents of the bill.

Within 15 days of the bill’s signing, an exclusive casino license holder is required to pay a nonrefundable \$1 million application fee and a \$30 million license fee partial payment. The exclusive casino license fee holder is also required to invest at least \$2 billion in the CNMI and build an entirely new hotel with at least 2,000 rooms.

House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) said he would be the first one to offer amendments to the bill after it’s signed into law, adding that it’s never the bill’s intention to negatively impact other businesses

in the CNMI. Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), who all voted “no” to the casino bill, said the bill has lots of flaws and ambiguity that need to be addressed.

Other lawmakers asked yesterday declined to comment because of repercussions on their November re-election, while others didn’t return calls or text messages about the casino bill.

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CNMI govt settles police brutality lawsuit for \$45K

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI government has settled for \$45,000 a police brutality lawsuit filed against two former police officers by a motorist who, after the incident, reportedly became paralyzed from the neck down.

Following the settlement, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona yesterday dismissed with prejudice Alejandro L. Norita’s lawsuit against former police officers Regino Celis and Jerome Reyes.

Attorney David G. Banes, counsel for Norita, and assistant attorneys general Charles Brasington and Ghassan Harb, counsels for Celis and Reyes, asked the court on Wednesday to dismiss the case.

Under the agreement, the Commonwealth shall pay on behalf of Celis and Reyes \$45,000 to the trust account of the O’Connor Berman Dotts and Banes law firm no later than 90 days from the signing of the settlement.

Norita filed the lawsuit in 2012, seeking at least \$100,000 in damages.

Banes alleged that then-police officers Reyes and Celis used excessive force in arresting Norita after his car crashed on the fence of Oleai Elementary School in June 2010 during a pursuit.

The Office of the Attorney General then asserted that it is clear from the facts alleged and from the police report that Reyes and Celis not only had probable cause to arrest Norita but were authorized to remove him from his vehicle.

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Hasselback mum on Fitial request to quash arrest warrant

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel George L. Hasselback is keeping mum on OPA's position regarding former governor Benigno R. Fitial's request to quash the arrest warrant issued against him so he could return to the Commonwealth.

Hasselback also disclosed yesterday that, while the case against Fitial's former escort/driver, Jermaine Joseph Wabol Nekaifes, has already been dismissed, the cases against the other co-defendants are still pending in Superior Court.

Hasselback said they will

be filing a response to Fitial's motions in the next day or two and they will have a hearing on Monday.

"So I really don't have a comment until then," he said.

Fitial, through counsel Stephen Nutting, filed with the Superior Court on Friday a declaration, stating his intent to return to the CNMI from the Philippines to face the charges against him.

OPA filed seven charges against the 68-year-old Fitial for his role in shielding former attorney general Edward

T. Buckingham from being served with a penal summons in August 2012.

Hasselback said they are waiting to find out which judge will handle the cases against the other co-defendants who participated in escorting and shielding Buckingham. He said they will then request for a trial date.

On Feb. 25, 2014, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govenodo dismissed the case against Nekaifes without prejudice, at Hasselback's request. Dismissed without prejudice means

the plaintiff is allowed to re-open the case in the future.

Hasselback agreed to dismiss the case against Nekaifes as part of the government's deal for the former police captain to testify against Buckingham.

During Buckingham's trial last month, Nekaifes testified that Fitial instructed him not to allow Federal Bureau of Investigation agents from approaching Buckingham at the Saipan International Airport on Aug. 4, 2012.

Nekaifes also stated that he believes that part of the purpose of escorting Buckingham and his wife to the airport was to prevent OPA from serving the

penal summons.

The information charged the 40-year-old Nekaifes with several related charges of conspiracy to commit theft of services, obstructing justice, interference with service or process, and misconduct in public office.

Aside from Fitial, Bucking-

ham, and Nekaifes, the other co-defendants are former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro, former Commonwealth Ports Authority police chief Jordan Kosam, and former CPA police captain Juan Rebuenog.

Cleanup in Garapan tomorrow

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Cleanup Brigade would be teaming up with Paseo De Marianas Promoters in an attempt to clean up the Garapan tourist district and drainages this Saturday, March 15, 2014, at 8am. Volunteers are asked to meet on the Paseo de Marianas in front of the Kinpachi Restaurant to pick up supplies and to be given directions.

The cleanup is being held in preparation for a multi-agency cleanup of Garapan storm drains to address the recent flooding events associated with unseasonal rains in the region. The drainage cleanup is being led by the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., BECQ, Saipan Mayor's Office, and National Parks Service. Preparation work will begin Monday, March 17, and is expected to last for approximately three weeks. Traffic will be closed temporarily for work crews starting with the road next to the drainage canal adjacent to Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Crews will then move north-

ward toward American Memorial Park.

Area residents and visitors are asked to avoid streets with heavy equipment and work crews for their safety.

If you would like to volunteer your time to clean and beautify our island, meet the BECQ or PDM representatives on Saturday at Paseo De Marianas grounds at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a brigade t-shirt.

The BECQ is looking forward to a repeat success on Saturday, so join BECQ's Cleanup Brigade and PDM promoters to "Pick It Up!" Let us work together for the health of our coral reefs and cleanliness of our beaches for everyone to enjoy.

For more information about volunteering, contact the BECQ office at 664-8500/1. (PR)

Radio show features engineer, ex-senator

Marianas Agupa Radio will feature Efrain Camacho, P.E. and former senator Frica Pangelinan on Saturday, March 15, 2014, between 10:30am and 11am to talk about the initiative on Article 12 and its implication on the CNMI's economy—what will it mean if we extend it from 55 years to 99 years or if we were to get rid of Article 12 altogether.

Listeners on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and those listening via streaming are encouraged to call in and ask questions during

the show at 234-5929 or use the Marianas Agupa Facebook account via instant messaging.

The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona, with reports by Joseph S. Inos, a special segment from Rota with Thomas D. Mendiola, David M. Cing on Tinian, John Del Rosario Sr., and Antonio R. Cabrera. Simultaneous streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. For more information, contact Manglona at 287-4536. (PR)

Tinian energy awareness event reset

Due to unforeseen circumstances with the airline, the Energy Division under Department of Public Works would like to inform Tinian residents who pre-registered for the 2014 Tinian Energy Awareness Campaign for March 15, 2014, at the Tinian Gymnasium that the event has been rescheduled to March 29, 2014, Saturday, still at the Tinian Gymnasium.

The first session is from 9am to 11am, while the second session is from 2pm to 4pm.

Pre-registration is extended until we have reached the required number of participants. For those who have pre-registered you will remain on our

list of registered participants on your scheduled time. Registered attendees are still required to present a valid photo ID and a copy of their most recent utility bill in their name to be allowed to participate in the scheduled sessions. Those who fail to provide a photo ID and recent CUC bill at the time of the session will be turned away.

We apologize for the inconvenience and please feel free to call the Energy Division if you have any questions or concerns at 664-4480/84

This project is made possible through a grant under the State Energy Program, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. (Office of the Governor)



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Renowned specialist joins Marianas Eye Institute

Marianas Eye Institute welcomes board-certified ophthalmologist Dr. Dennis Williams as its newest specialist.

Williams spent his career at one of the busiest cataract surgery centers in the United States, published articles that led to major advances in eye surgery, taught courses annually at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery meetings, and has been recognized by his peers with his inclusion in "The Best Doctors in America." In addition, Williams has been serving as assistant clinical professor of Ophthalmology at University of South Florida.

Williams joins Dr. Mark Robertson to provide eye care to the people of the CNMI.

"We're thrilled to have a physician of Dr. Williams' caliber joining our staff," said Dr. David Khorram, co-founder of Marianas Eye Institute. "We have a tradition of excellence, and being able to bring in someone of Dr. Williams experience and stature is a real gain for the peoples of the CNMI."

Khorram explained that they have been searching for an ophthalmologist to join Marianas Eye Institute for nearly a year. "I am fortunate to have been able to provide care to the people of the CNMI for the past 21 years," said Khorram, "However, since I have not been residing [on] Saipan full-time, I've wanted to bring in another ophthalmologist to live and serve on Saipan. We know that's what's best for the island."

Khorram explained that the search process has been long. "We wanted to bring in the right person—someone who would combine the skills of an excellent surgeon and doctor, with personal qualities of warmth and humility—so it took time. We had quite a few qualified candidates to choose from," said Khorram.

The addition of Williams is timely, as Khorram and his family prepare to move to Europe in April. "I never expected to leave the Marianas," said Dr. Khorram, "but our eldest daughter started at Townshend International School in the Czech Republic this past August, and we felt the need to keep our family together. That's why we're moving," explained Khorram. "I'm very happy to be able to entrust the care of our patients to someone with Dr. Williams' talent and reputation."

Williams received a bachelor's degree with honors from Central Michigan University, majoring in chemistry. He worked on a graduate degree in exercise physiology at Michigan State University, during which time he was a graduate assistant to the university swim team. He graduated from Wayne State University Medical School

with highest honors, and like Khorram, was one of a select few elected to the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society. Williams completed his medical education at Kresge Eye Institute, in Michigan, and was selected to serve as Chief Resident in the Department of Ophthalmology.

Shortly after completing his training in ophthalmology, Williams joined the world-famous St. Luke's Cataract and Laser Institute in Florida. While there, he was the Director of Corneal Transplant and Refractive Surgery, and taught multiple instructional courses at the meetings of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, helping train other experienced doctors in the newest techniques being developed by Williams and his colleagues. During this time, Williams conducted clinical research comparing two different types of lens implant techniques used during complicated cataract surgery. The publication of Williams' research led to a major shift around the world in use of artificial lenses in complicated surgery. Williams has implanted more secondary lenses than any other eye surgeon in the United States.

"One of the reasons I joined the St. Luke's Cataract and Laser Institute was because of their work overseas," explained Williams. "During my 19 years there, I was fortunate to serve as president of the Cataract Teaching Foundation, which supported the training of doctors, and donation of eye equipment in the developing world."

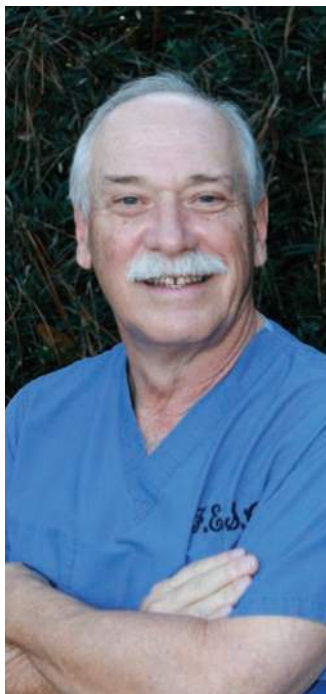
During this time, Williams participated in over 70 surgical missions, and served as medical director of over 30 of them to Africa, the Middle East, Mexico, Central and South America as well as the Caribbean and the former Soviet Union.

Williams was appointed to the faculty of University of South Florida, where he continues to help train ophthalmologists in the residency-training program.

Khorram explained that during the search process, one of their highest priorities was to leave the peoples of the CNMI in the hands of a great eye surgeon.

"One of Dr. Williams' honors was his appointment to the American Board of Eye Surgery, an exclusive group of surgeons who seek to promote the highest possible quality of ophthalmic surgical care. This, along with having been selected by his peers for inclusion in 'The Best Doctors in America' attests to the skills he brings to Marianas Eye Institute," said Khorram.

In addition to Williams expertise in cataract surgery and



Williams

corneal transplants, he spent a portion of his career with the Laser Vision Institute, where he performed 700-800 LASIK procedures per month. He also brings with him considerable experience in treatment of diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration, currently performing 60-70 Avastin injections per month.

"Despite his many accomplishments, his high level of skill, and his excellence as a surgeon, we were struck during the interview process by his humility and his kindness," explained Khorram. "Dennis is kind, cheerful, and down-to-earth—perfect qualities for the diverse populations we serve at Marianas Eye Institute."

"I thought that we would be in the Mariana Islands forever," said Khorram, "but the education of our children is moving us unexpectedly to Europe. As my family and I prepare to pursue this new adventure, I'm thrilled to have Dr. Williams stepping in for me. He has even more experience than I do, and I leave confident that with Dr. Williams and Dr. Robertson at Marianas Eye Institute, the patients of CNMI remain in superb hands."

"The next few weeks will be a period of transition, as I entrust the care of the people whom I have grown to know and love to this excellent surgeon and wonderful person," added Khorram.

Khorram still has family on

Saipan and expects to return for periodic visits. "I look forward to coming back to visit the island that we'll forever call 'home.'"

Williams is joined by his wife, Dianna. They have three grown sons, and six grandchildren, all who look forward to visiting them on Saipan.

Williams and Robertson provide complete eye care for the family at Marianas Eye Institute. Services include one-hour glasses, medical eye care, surgery and laser. Marianas Eye Institute has been recognized by *Retinal Physician Magazine* as one of the best equipped eye clinics in the Asia-Pacific region. Call for appointments, or walk in, Beach Road, Garapan, 235-9090. (PR)



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Quichochos fail to show up in court

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Frances Quichocho failed to show up at the continuation of her cross-examination yesterday, prompting U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona to reschedule the trial for today, Friday.

Frances' husband, attorney Ramon Quichocho, also didn't appear in court. Attorney Michael Dotts, who represents the couple, appeared on their behalf.

Attorneys Colin Thompson and Robert T. Torres, counsels for businesswoman Jung Ja Kim, and Kim were present in court.

Before calling in the jurors, Manglona first conferred

with Dotts, Thompson, and Torres in her chamber.

Manglona later told the jurors that unexpected situations sometimes happen and informed them of the change of schedule for the day.

Manglona ordered the jurors to return to court today, Friday, at 10am to continue with the trial. She excused the jurors at 8:25am.

Dotts told *Saipan Tribune* that everything is okay and that Frances will continue her testimony. He refused to comment on what happened to Frances.

Saipan Tribune learned that Frances was apparently sick yesterday and that Ramon Quichocho brought her to the hospital.

Thompson cross-examined

Frances Wednesday afternoon. He was supposed to continue his questioning yesterday, the 16th day of the trial.

Kim is suing the Quichochos, Quichocho law firm, and their company Karissa LLC for racketeering and other claims. The Quichochos also filed a counterclaim against Kim.

Inspection and survey of Garapan set

The CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Bureau of Environmental Health, Department of Public Safety, Saipan Mayor's Office, and Zoning will be working jointly in the next several months to inspect and survey the Garapan tourist district.

This is in order to locate and address the continual source of illegal dumping and littering that poses threats to public health, sanitation, and the environment.

"We care about you and your families' health, our visitors' enjoyment of our islands, and the health of our environment," BECQ said.

All building and business owners will be asked whether they have a valid and reliable method for collecting, hauling, and disposing of the waste generated by their tenants and customers starting March 17, 2014.

Owners will be asked to provide the following:

- Valid and current contract with a CNMI licensed and permitted solid waste hauler showing frequency of hauling services.

- Current receipts for waste hauling services from a licensed and permitted solid waste hauler or if the owner hauls his own waste.

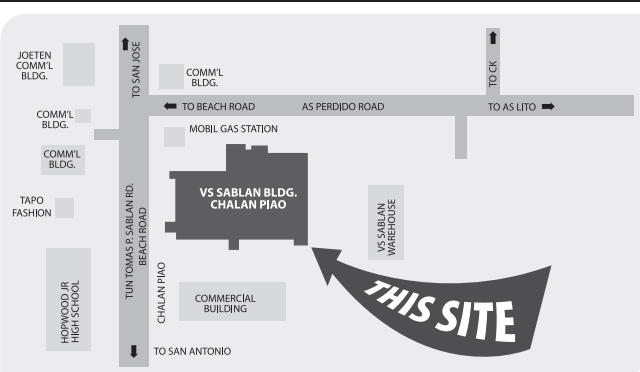
- Personal receipts from Department of Public Works Transfer Station or Landfill Scale House to demonstrate frequency and weights of hauling.

Owners that cannot show documentation of having a reliable trash collection and disposal procedure will be given a list of all available trash haulers and services within the CNMI, and may be subject to additional scrutiny for littering, open dumping, and sanitary violations.

"We hope you agree that Garapan should be one of Saipan's most sought-after tourist destinations and places to live. Together let's clean it up," BECQ said.

Any questions regarding the inspection and survey or would like to report illegal dumping or littering, contact 664-8500. (*Jayson Camacho*)

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

March 14, 2006

USCG seizes boat allegedly engaged in illegal fishing

The U.S. Coast Guard intercepted a boat carrying more than 10 Asians believed to be engaged in illegal fishing in CNMI waters early Saturday morning, the Saipan Tribune learned yesterday. Theresa Neumann, Lt. Commander for the U.S. Coast Guard Guam Sector, confirmed the report, but would not give specific details as to how many persons were involved and their nationalities. Neumann, in a telephone interview, said that on Wednesday an aircraft C13 spotted a 100-footer fishing boat within the CNMI's exclusive economic zone. Neumann said the U.S. Coast dispatched its boat, Cutter, to the area but, because of the distance from Guam, found the boat only on Saturday, some 550 miles north of Guam.

Work-hour cut reduced to 4 hours

The Fitial administration has modified its work-hour reduction plan and now looks at implementing a 36-hour workweek, rather than the initial proposal of a 32-hour workweek. Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said yesterday that the administration wanted to give itself the flexibility of adjusting the number of government work hours depending on the amount of future revenue collections. The Financial Relief Task Force originally recommended that government work period be cut by eight hours a week. But apparently, there had been a misunderstanding within the administration. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said in his press conference Friday that he thought the reduction would only be four hours a week. Citing information from acting Finance Secretary Eloy Inos, Reyes said that the administration had decided to take a wait-and-see attitude toward the eight-hour cut.

March 14, 2007

CUC still on first phase of privatization plan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is still on the first phase of its privatization plan for its power division. CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis, in an interview with Saipan Tribune yesterday, said they are still at the first step where firms are requesting documents from CUC to decide whether they want to enter for a pre-qualification. "If they [firms] decide they want to submit their financial and technical background to CUC in order to be pre-qualified, then they must do so by April 2, Mathis said.

Search on for 'most beautiful village'

Imagine your village with a welcome sign that reads: "You are entering the Most Beautiful Village on Saipan" and the privilege of becoming the pilot for the government's curbside recycling project. One of the villages on Saipan can have this honor after the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality launched the "Most Beautiful Village Contest 2007." To ensure one's victory, groups or residents of villages in the CNMI are being urged to start organizing their communities so they could participate in the latest community beautification competition in the Commonwealth.

March 14, 2008

Ex-College of Marshall Islands prexy helps NMC

The troubled Northern Marianas College got a much-needed boost early this week with the arrival of a former college president that helped his school regain accreditation. Former College of Marshall Islands president Wilson G. Hess arrived on Saipan Tuesday and was part of a briefing team NMC president Carmen Fernandez assembled at the Legislature yesterday that updated lawmakers on the steps the college has been doing to get itself out of show-cause status.

'No wholesale Cabinet shakeup'

The Fitial administration is not mulling any wholesale changes to the Cabinet, on the heels of former congressman Clyde K. Norita's appointment as the new Commissioner for the Department of Public Safety. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's press secretary Charles P. Reyes said he sees only the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs post that needs to be filled after former DCCA Secretary Daisy Bier Villagomez opted to go back to the Northern Marianas College. "I do not expect many changes. I believe only a few other changes may be made, if any. We do have a vacancy for DCCA Secretary, which we wish to fill in the near future. The vacancy was created when Daisy Bier Villagomez [former DCCA Secretary] resumed her employment with NMC last year," he said.

Walker turns in requirements; awaits committee's decision

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The orthopedic surgeon who wants to come back and continue practicing on island disclosed yesterday that he recently turned in a "complete packet" of requirements to the credentialing committee for review.

Idaho-based Dr. Grant Walker is applying for medical privilege

at the Commonwealth Health Center. That will allow him to use the hospital's equipment and facilities while in private practice.

"The credentialing package is complete. It is in the hands of the board. They are good people and I believe they will do the right thing. Hopefully, privilege will be granted soon and the board will help me rebuild a stable

orthopedic surgery on Saipan," Walker told *Saipan Tribune* in an email.

His plan is to work in the private sector but he has also offered to cover the hospital's ER for orthopedic surgery.

Walker said that among the requirements provided to the credentialing committee was his "verified assets." Now that all required documentations are

in, "we have to let the [CHCC] board and the credential committee be comfortable with privileging first."

The hospital's governing body earlier terminated Walker's medical privilege just as his contract with CHC was about to expire. He had asked the governing body to rescind its decision but this has not been acted upon, with the governing body saying

it stands by its decision.

Yesterday, Walker said the "board has stepped up to the plate and seems to be giving me due process. I have every confidence in the board."

CHCC board chair Joaquin Torres assured a "fair" process for Walker. He, however, pointed out that final decision rests with the credentials committee and the governing body.

The corporation's governing body is composed of interim CEO Esther Muña, acting CFO Cora Ada, Medical Affairs director Dr. Sherleen Osman, and Dr. Norman Nakamura.

According to Walker, he first sent his application for medical privilege to the credential committee on Nov. 13, 2013.

The corporation's governing board then came back to the doctor enumerating the requirements needed to process an application. The credential committee is tasked to review applications and make recommendations to the governing body.

The panel has to act on the application within 90 days, whether to accept or reject it. The decision will then be presented at the next regular meeting of the Medical Executive Committee.

The governing body can either accept the recommendation of the Medical Executive Committee or refer it back for further consideration.

WSR school shirts available for sale

The last day to order William S. Reyes Elementary School shirts will be on March 28, 2014, Friday. Youth sizes XS-L and adult S-XL will cost \$10. Adult XXL and XXXL will be \$12. Please stop by the main office to place your orders. Available colors: Carolina blue, navy blue, royal blue, pink, yellow, gray, and black. (PR)



JUDGES' CHOICE

Koblerville Elementary School's Umang Glee Club is one of the CNMI's bets at the Tumon Bay's Music Festival in Guam over the weekend. The glee club has earned slots for the finale night to be held tomorrow, March 15. The group has already earned the Judges' Choice for Small Ensemble Performance and in the High School Choir category of the competition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

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EDITORIAL

US economy continues to underperform

The following editorial appeared in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Tuesday, March 11:

February's job creation figures released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on Friday underline the continuing pathetic state of the American job market.

New jobs for the month numbered a middling 175,000, but the three-month average including January and normally vigorous December activity was a pale 121,000. The unemployment rate was 6.7 percent, masking a 203,000-person increase in long-term joblessness among Americans, a number now standing at 3.8 million. Wild-eyed optimists, perhaps seeking to jack up the stock market, proposed that the February figure would have been higher if the weather had been better in parts of the country.

It is clear that drastic action needs to be taken if the situation of high unemployment, lowering quality of jobs and low, stagnant pay is no longer to persist in an economy that has been in recession since 2008.

President Barack Obama's cheerleading on the subject, or Democratic efforts to blame it on the Republicans, or vice versa, should be of no satisfaction to Americans. Whether the Federal Reserve Bank continues to hand lollipops or tapers them, in the form of quantitative easing to America's banks to fatten their uninvested reserves or to increase the bonuses they pay the rich people who run them is also of no major interest to Americans who want to work, or who want to be paid a living wage for the work they do.

These latest job figures support a contention that serious action needs to be taken by federal and state leaders and legislatures to tackle the problem. The fact that many of them will be busy this year pursuing money from the non-job-creators to finance their reelections serves as a clear message to taxpayers to turn them out of office in the primaries and in November, based on their far-inadequate performance in the face of an employment crisis.

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Protests

What became clear to me when I was protesting the Vietnam War and the shortage of funds for LBJ's War on Poverty was that, essentially, I (we were) was asking someone to act on my behalf, a futile exercise.

One of the admirable qualities of Putin is his history of "Just Doing It" before anyone else in the world can say, "Boo!" There are many highly paid Monday morning armchair analysts in Western media who try to figure out a rational explanation for the thought and behavioral patterns of our thin-haired, chest-and-abs baring former intelligence officer, President of the Federal Republic of Russia.

But first, let me get the news upfront. President Obama is "protesting" (the word is the media's characterization of the WH's pronouncement) not only the alleged presence of incognito Russian forces in Crimea, but also the Parliament of Crimea of predominantly Russian population deciding to join Russia, calling it "illegal." In the same manner as the WH made the "threat" when certain forces tried and are still trying to depose President Assad from Syria; "there shall be consequences" went with the pronouncement.

I put "protest," "illegal," and "threat" in quotation marks because we are referring to WH Obama who as a congressman, with two others, opposed the U.S. invasion of Iraq. His drone-use policy I take as minimizing the upfront roles of military personnel; he has evidently decided to live with the consequence of collateral damage regarding civilian casualties when going after known al-Qaida operatives. That's between him and his conscience. Never mind the Pentagon's; it don't have nothin'!

The bold and lightning flash that accompanied the assault on Osama bin Laden's compound, however, indicates Obama's willingness to act when the condition is opportune. But most of the criticisms on his alleged unwillingness to act, or refusal to lay out specific implementation tactics behind pronounced threats, stem from the absence of military display that ex-POW McCain expects on his own sense of honor and duty! Obama, in my reading, acquiesced to flaky joint exercises in America's unofficial 51st State of South Korea to bully the beleaguered hermit kingdom of Kim Jung Un!

I am an American Pinoy at heart, and my cultural tendency is to make light of heavy matters, and laugh in the middle of serious occurrences, like the outburst we exhibited in the archipelago when Ninoy Aquino was gunned down at the Manila International tarmac. I am an Obama supporter, and do so because the alternative options are worse than the one's he had taken. Never mind that the rhetoric on threats tended to be hyperbole. He is severely criticized for inaction in Benghazi when some of us appreciate the restraint that may have cost us the life of Ambassador Stephens and two FS

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



staff but could have considerably been broader had we immediately sent a battalion of Marines.

That is probably why I am no longer enamored with protests. It tends to criticize what is, what is already a done deal, either promoting a return to what had been, or requiring someone to take blame, renounce committed acts, and make amends. That sounds nice in rhetoric but its chances at happening is as likely as when hell freezes.

Back to Crimea. It was Tsarist Russia's gem, hosting military personnel and vacationing royals. After the 1917 revolution, it became a part of Russia, but was ceded to Ukraine by Khrushchev in '54 while it was a part of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics. It remained a part of Ukraine even when the USSR unraveled in 1991. Russia, however, maintained its naval base at Sevastopol, not unlike our maintaining Guantanamo in Cuba. Ukraine, meanwhile, as part of the USSR, utilized Russian gas and oil, even transshipping oil to EU. It's use, relatedly inexpensive as a socialist right, was shouldered by the state. Then 1991 happened, and the privatization push began. Aye, there's the rub. Oil control drooled. Guess who wants to control the gas and oil flow and profit? Russia, where the goods originate, said, *Nyet!*

We trained forces for the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba. In retaliation for our defense line around the USSR, Khrushchev sent missiles to Cuba, which resulted in our unilateral naval blockade. Russia is essentially doing the same in Crimea except in this case, a majority of the population are Russians. Our history in Cuba, with our support of Batista, made a majority of Cubans hate our guts. The Russians in Crimea decided to be Russians!

I am not too worried about expansionist Russia. In Crimea so far, no shot had been made and Crimea knows which side of its toast to butter. It is the anti-Obama bluster that is worrisome because it tries to push a military agenda for ideology into what is essentially a diplomatic matter. Of course, there is the matter of Uncle Sam's "face," but leave face mania to China. *Pro testare*, to be for something, is in my league, and Obama has been prudent. To be against what others do, I will leave to busybodies who have nothing else on their plates but a menu of protests.

You will pardon me if you catch me snickering on the side.

Words on worlds

“I’ve been around the world,” some wit said, “and it hates each other.” That’s a good chunk of world history summed up in one brief sentence, so what more can be said about worldly concerns?

Well, here’s something we can say: There are a whole lot of other worlds out there. So if you get tired of thinking about ours, you can direct your attention to a growing list of interesting alternatives.

In fact, the tally of “exoplanets” detected, which are planets outside of our solar system, is in the thousands now. The count exceeds 1,700 but the list of good prospects is around 3,000 and this is sure to grow.

For sake of perspective, I’ll note that when I was in college the tally of exoplanets was a big fat zero.

Back then, if you told me that I’d live to see the day when astronomy magazines would in matter-of-fact terms mention some of the latest exoplanets discovered, much like the financial press reports the latest bank merger, I would have dismissed the notion as science fiction. After all, even the nearest star (not including the sun, of course) is about 25 trillion miles away. To my mind, finding planets that far away seemed like an impossible idea.

Of course, the notion of exoplanets isn’t all that new. The theories about how stars and their accompanying solar systems form were plainly spelled out in school texts. The ideas were right, at least insofar that they assumed that many other stars had planets, but the observations to prove that those planets existed had not yet taken off.

Well, that sure changed. Technology has zoomed ahead.

As far as the observations go, only a handful of exoplanets have been directly observed. The vast majority are detected by clever

analysis of precision measurements, such as noting how a star gets dimmer and brighter on a regular basis. This can happen for a number of reasons, but one reason is that the star is being “eclipsed” by an orbiting planet. In this case, when the planet is transiting in front of the star (from our observer’s perspective), the star appears a little bit dimmer because the planet is blocking some of its light, and then when the planet is in back of the star and not in the way anymore, the star appears a little bit brighter.

Well, that’s pretty freaky science, measuring things in such teeny-tiny detail. But freakier still is that entire systems of exoplanets are being discovered.

In fact, to me, the “how” is more interesting than the “what.” I like hearing about how the astronomers and physicists figure this stuff out.

As for the “what,” which is to say, the exact composition and nature of the various exoplanets, well, that’s fueling an increasingly large body of news these days.

As you might imagine, one lively topic in the exoplanet realm concerns how many of these planets are candidates to harbor life. It’s a bit of a Goldilocks game where, for example, the planet should be not too hot, or not too cold, but just right. I don’t really follow this end of the gig, though, so if some remote colony of space creatures ever sends us a selfie I’ll be the last to know.

But there is a standing vigil for such things, at least to the extent that selfies can come via radio waves. For example, the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI) program keeps an analytical watch on various frequencies in hopes of detecting the electronic emissions of cosmic creatures.

I’ll emit a couple of intriguing things that I like to ponder.

Had we done the thing right...

The economic doom-and-gloom has crash-landed into households everywhere. It’s so disorienting it’s hard making sense what the beastly contraption is all about. “*Dalai ‘ste!’*” or its equivalent of a hellish hole is the most famous daily mouthwash everywhere.

This as the “promise” troops begin surveying the campaign trail to either make more false promises or regurgitate old irrelevant ones. Some of the guys must be suffering from mental atrophy—when the brain malfunctions—incapable of discerning the concept of time and motion. Sorry, there’s no room here for euphemism or polite niceties!

For a government that is financially impotent (bankrupt) circling the over \$1-billion debt wagon, shall we hear solid answers from individual candidates of their plans? How do you solve the 25-percent cut in pension pay, fatal spike in health premiums, the disruptive every-other-full-moon increase in power bills and impending prices spike of basic food items? No matter your stripe, we need rock solid answers to resolve the growing fiscal mess at home.

Rota was recently declared an emergency for the scarcity of imported food items and another bout with increase in the price of basic food commodities. Is there an answer from the incumbent governor on this score and others treading the campaign trail? It’s bad tidings all around for any political trade horse, especially incumbents.

Perhaps the most damning culprit in the economic dystopia—where nothing works—is the lack of vision and spiritual leadership to move and guide the multitude out of the misery of abject familial poverty. Everybody had been and continues to sleep on the switchboard though it’s been ringing like mad, not all night but all these years. Humiliating, isn’t it?

Was it really hard moving the needle of proactivity to begin reining in policies that foster equitable and timely strides at “jobs and wealth creation” so we eventually land on the even playing field of economic prosperity? Or was suspect leadership so enamored with its mediocre performance it finds it devastating parting with *mañana*?

The lachrymose performance is humiliating, especially when one has the gall to slug it out once more in the public arena. Don’t you

think voters know by heart what their issues are under suspect leadership then and now? Eh, we weren’t born yesterday *lai*. Had leadership done things right as well as the right thing, this mess would have been far less egregious.

Spouting ‘self-government’

We move in and out of this issue with lame impunity. This is because we know the humiliating tearful performance strengthening our democratic institution protracted process may be.

Give the voters a 1,000 percent loud and clear kudos for their performance last mid-term election, clearly rebuking the steady growth of a statist (dictatorial) government here. No sir! We remain faithful to a government of laws, not of men.

After impeaching the former governor for lack of transparency, the same boys did the same thing, fast tracking casino legislation without public scrutiny even after it was shot down twice. This is sheer arrogance and hypocrisy, imposing transparency on others but skipping it quickly when navigating casino legislation through its chamber. So much for missing a familiar street: integrity. It’s lunacy in all its moronic and adolescent behavior!

As we inch our way in the dark alleys of self-government, there are lessons to be learned forthwith, including learning to keep our “true north” in truth and integrity. There’s no room for vacillation even if it’s politically advantageous. It’s such a small government nailed to its coffin of scarcity of resources. Is there anybody among you willing to take the high road, difficult as it may be?

With bankruptcy, we circle the wagon of indecision, time and again, refusing to take powerful strides to reduce the useless bicameral Legislature down to a six-member unicameral system. Why spend \$4.8 million annually on policies that simply avoid fixing the economic mess?

The scattershot arrangement or disarrangement today isn’t helping the indigenous people. A strong sense of organization is a must to set the stage for authoritative undertakings via workable programs in the edification of the livelihood of our people. This is the missing aspect of all the disoriented discussion on indigenous rights. Like someone said, let’s do things right by doing the right thing, now!

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



Last year, an exoplanet expert told me he estimates that, on average, there’s about one planet for every star out there. That’s a very rough estimate, of course, but even if it’s off by a factor of 10 in either direction it provides some perspective. I’m sure that in a few years more refined estimates will come our way. But for now, I’ll just take this at face value.

A second notion in general circulation runs like so: It’s said that the universe has more stars than the planet Earth has grains of sand in all of its beaches and all of its deserts. No, I have not audited the math, but even if it’s nearly true it’s mighty interesting.

If we want to just dovetail the two notions in a neat, one-for-one substitution, we could guesstimate that every earthly grain of sand represents another planet in the universe. That’s food for thought the next time you’re walking down Saipan’s Micro Beach, eh? How many worlds are stuck to the bottom of your zoris?

Of course, the only world you really have to deal with is the biggest one stuck to the bottom of your zoris: this world, and all that goes with it, including the fact that Earthlings sure do seem to hate each other sometimes. Welcome home!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Local issues with federal implications

There are local matters with federal implications. It simply means matters at home that require working with appropriate federal officials or agencies on anything from the scandalous and failed Obamacare to pathway to citizenship.

Sen. Francisco Cruz and Rep. Trenton Conner must step up to the plate on these issues, including probing the use of presidential proclamations seizing the three islands up north that rightfully are indigenous islands.

Or are they also sleeping on the switchboard, hoping they could squeak through as permanent members of the “Do-Nothing” troops? These and other issues merit serious and critical review and the two guys can’t simply dismiss them resting on their laurels, *di ba?*

Military needs for land and other issues require continuous work in progress so we know what’s coming down the pike. It’s a matter of encouraging assimilation and constructive partnership henceforth. It’s more positive strides for the island and its people.

■ ■ ■

As investors move into Rota and Tinian to invest and improve upon the casino industry in progressive strides, local leadership and investors were caught off guard when senators from their islands voted for Saipan casino.

The action of pro-Saipan casino Sens. Victor Hokog, Francisco Borja, and Joaquin Borja did nothing but derail the confidence of investors in the only industry on both islands. Maybe the senators have divine vision for emplacing investment instability back home?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Lessons learned: Pass the casino bill

I cannot help myself but agree that poker parlor is 100 percent a form of casino and it is nothing new. I want them removed badly because I have seen these well-positioned poker parlors target our locals and I hate that! We should immediately and without delay steer these establishments toward our tourists who enjoy entertainment and have the money to do so.

I support this casino bill but I am worried if there will be an investor who will pay \$31 million up front. Take for example Tinian, which passed its Casino Act in 1989. It took Tinian Dynasty 10 years after the Casino Act was passed before it operated. After almost 25 years after the Tinian Casino Act, the Tinian Dynasty remains the one and only casino to ever

operate, even though there are four other licenses available. Clearly, Tinian would have been in a much better situation if the exclusivity was granted since the very beginning because the value of such a license would have been more expensive. We should learn from that.

Rota passed its Casino Act in 2007 and its yearly license fee is \$400,000 for five years (80,000.00 per year) and no requirements to build a hotel. It has been over seven years and to this date, there is still no casino establishment on Rota. I think Rota should consider granting an exclusive license as well because no one is even showing up.

The proposed casino bill requires \$15 million every year plus

\$1 million non-refundable application fee with possibility of exclusiveness. The investor is also required to build 2,000 rooms! There is absolutely no risk or loss to the Commonwealth with the passage of this casino bill.

I have family members who are retirees and they desperately need their pension and the restoration of the 25-percent reduction. The governor should pass the casino bill and work on its implementation immediately. If you do not pass this casino bill, I will not vote for you.






Jason Aldan

As Lito, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 75°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partit Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Palau	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 74
Yap	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Majuro	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 82

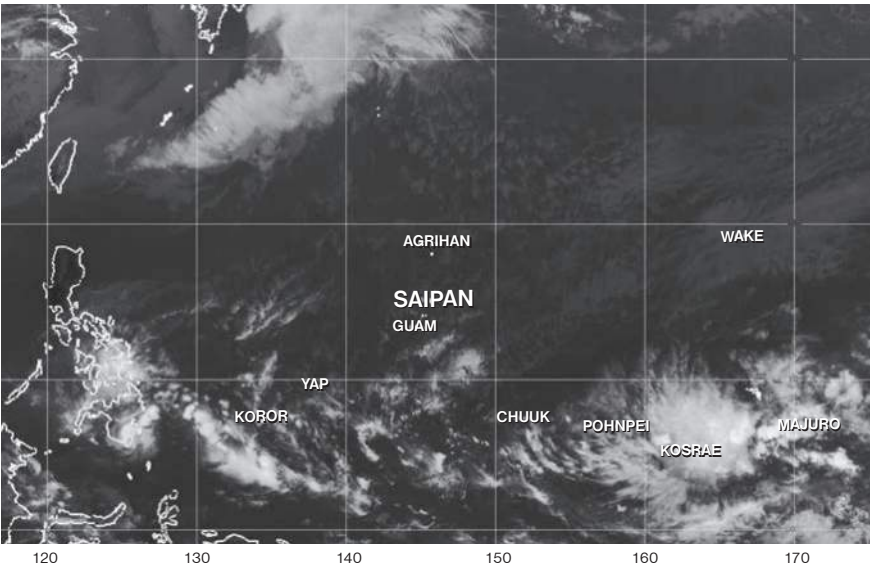
Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲ 70 ▼ 68
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 38
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 63
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 81 ▼ 69
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 75 ▼ 54
Manila	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 53
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 67
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 45 ▼ 38
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 52 ▼ 44
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 44
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 45
Rome	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 46
Salem	Rain	▲ 58 ▼ 41
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 53
Seoul	Windy	▲ 57 ▼ 35
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 52 ▼ 40
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 41

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:25 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	
7:55 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	
1:51 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet	
7:14 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends southwestward from east of Wake Island near 23N180 to south of Guam near 8N144E to end southwest of Yap near 7N137E. Low clouds and patchy showers are seen along and up to 250 miles northwest of the shear line. A surface trough reaches northwestward from 2N144E to end west of Koror near 8N130E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring from west of Koror to southeast of Yap within 100 miles of a line from 8N130E to 4N137E to 2N143E. A near-equatorial trough extends eastward from southwest of Chuuk at 2N147E through a broad circulation centered near Butaritari atoll at 3N171E to beyond the date line at 1N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present south of Chuuk within 80 miles of a line from 6N152E to 4N156E. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are evident north of the trough and near the circulation from near Pohnpei across Kosrae and the Marshall Islands south of a line from 7N157E to 10N164E to 11N170E to 11N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:26 AM	6:27 PM
Saturday	6:25 AM	6:27 PM
Sunday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Monday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	6:23 AM	6:28 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:28 PM	4:26 AM
Saturday	5:16 PM	5:06 AM
Sunday	6:05 PM	5:45 AM
Monday	6:54 PM	6:25 AM
Tuesday	7:45 PM	7:06 AM

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- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 25, 2014

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5039 1:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5038 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:40am Daily DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 (will increase eff Jan 29) OZ104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily OZ103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6 (will increase eff Jan 29)
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:00am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:20pm 3:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:00am 10:55pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:30pm 5 via Guam UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Guam UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:45am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 7 via Guam UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
SAIPAN-TIANJIN (TSN) D2884 10:45am 2:45pm Jan 25, 30, Feb 4, 9, 14, 24	TIANJIN (TSN)-SAIPAN D2885 4:45pm 12:20am+1 Jan 25, 30, Feb 4, 9, 14, 24
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH) D2880 4:30pm 8:00pm Jan 28, Feb 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27	HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN D2881 10:00pm 5:15am+1 Jan 28, Feb 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27
SAIPAN-WUHAN (WUH) D2882 11:00am 3:15pm Jan 27, Feb 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26	WUHAN (WUH)-SAIPAN D2883 5:15pm 12:20am+1 Jan 27, Feb 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Coast Guard cutter delivers humanitarian aid

ULITHI ATOLL, FSM—On March 10, 2014, the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Sequoia* stopped at Ulithi Atoll while returning to Guam from a fisheries law enforcement patrol. While holding station off the coast, *Sequoia* had the unique opportunity to transport and deliver humanitarian aid supplies, provided by the Ayuda Foundation in Guam, to Falalop Island using her small boats.

Sequoia's commanding officer, LCDR Jessica Worst, stated,

"We are grateful to have such a capable vessel that allows us the flexibility to perform our primary missions while also supporting humanitarian efforts in the Pacific."

After arriving offshore of Falalop, *Sequoia* crew members removed aid supplies from the cargo hold and organized them on the buoy deck. The supplies consisted of 10 pallets containing items such as education materials, medicine, clothing,

rice, sugar, and rain barrels for catching water.

Once the contents of the pallets were spread out on deck, *Sequoia* launched two small boats to ferry personnel and supplies to the residents waiting on shore. Cutter personnel helped to transport the supplies from the small boats to the island, where members of the local community stacked and sorted the various items.

Through close cooperation between the crew of the *Se-*

quoia and residents of Falalop, the cargo was transferred to shore in less than four hours. The islanders welcomed the *Sequoia* crewmembers warmly and thanked them for transporting the supplies, which are an important resource for families living on these remote islands, particularly since there are no piers for cargo ships to utilize on the island. *Sequoia*'s versatile multi-mission design and capabilities make the vessel an

ideal platform to perform a wide variety of missions.

Sequoia, based in Guam, is manned by a crew of nine officers and 44 enlisted personnel. It is the 15th Juniper Class seagoing buoy tender and the 10th "B-Class" cutter built by Marinette Marine Corp. in Marinette, Wisconsin.

Sequoia's primary missions are

maintaining aids to navigation, search and rescue, law enforcement, marine environmental protection, and homeland security. It is 225 feet long with twin diesel engines, bow and stern thrusters, and advanced maneuvering capabilities that make it one of the world's premier buoy-tending platforms. (USCG)



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Governor's Office change phone numbers

Due to a system upgrade, there has been a change in telephone numbers for the Offices of the Governor & Lt. Governor as well as most offices located in the Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. As a result, telephone numbers for these offices with a 664 prefix may no longer be functional.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider ask for the public's cooperation and understanding during this transition period and extend their sincerest apology for any inconvenience caused by the telephone number change.

To contact any of the Governor/ Lt. Governor's Offices by telephone, call the Governor's Office operator at (670) 237-2200. (PR)

Red Cross health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health & Safety trainings on the following dates:

■ March 19, at 6pm: Adult First Aid/CPR/AED (second session continues Thursday)

■ March 19, at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED

■ March 20, at 6pm: Standard First Aid

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459 or visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class. (PR)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on March 20

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

Shirley's FC offers hot lunch on March 20

Shirley's Football Club is organizing a hot lunch fundraising activity this March 20 to help defray certain expenses of the club. The hot lunch bento costs \$5 and will include chicken pork adobo, chop suey, steamed rice, and bottled water. Buyers will also get a chance to win Shirley's Coffee Shop gift certificates, Fiesta Resort & Spa brunch and room accommodations, Kanoa Resort room stays, and many more surprises. The hot lunch bento can be picked up from 10am to 2pm at the Susupe Beach Park next Thursday. (PR)

Energy announces weatherization program

The CNMI Energy Division would like to inform the general public that the Residential Weatherization Assistance Program for Low Income Households is now open and will be accepting applications effective March 18, 2014. Due to limited slots available, this program will be on a first come, first serve basis. WAP application is available at the Energy Division Office in Capitol Hill, building No. 1337. For more information, contact energy auditor Eugene C. Borja at 664-4481. (PR)

Free workshop today on how to write a business plan

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be hosting a free workshop titled "How to Write a Business Plan" today, March 14, at the second floor of the Family Building in Garapan, from 10am to 12pm. It will be presented by CNMI SBDC director Perry Inos Jr. There are limited seats so register by calling 664-3018. (PR)

CCA board meeting March 18

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

Ancient Chamorro rock art presentation tomorrow

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council invites the public to a presentation on ancient Chamorro rock art that will be held at the Visitors Center Theater, American Memorial Park tomorrow, March 15, beginning at 6pm. Visiting archaeologist Dr. Rosalind Hunter-Anderson will present the results of a recent pilot study to determine the composition and age of several ancient images that were painted on the walls of the Mahlac Cave in Guam. This presentation is open to the public and free of charge. Call Council staff at 235-4787 for more information. (Humanities Council)

KHS reading workshop for parents

Kagman High School will be having a workshop on how to help your child learn how to use reading skills in all content areas. The event will take place on March 22, from 9am to 2:30pm, and April 10, from 5pm to 7:30pm, at the Kagman High School campus. There will be light refreshments and giveaways! For more information, contact the KHS main office at (670) 237-3840. (PR)

TAX ASSISTANCE SERVICES (ALL KINDS OF TAXES)

LP ACCOUNTING

Rm. 304, 3rd Floor Marianas Business Plaza
(formerly Nauro Building)

Business Hours: 8:30am - 6:00pm (Mon.-Fri.)
9:00am - 4:00pm (Saturday)

Tel: 234-3800, 285-3900

Contact Loida or one of our friendly staffs

SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – NMI CHAPTER



Presents

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT REGULATIONS AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Guest speaker

Edith Deleon Guerrero

Department of Labor Secretary

Friday, March 21, 2014

Seaside Hall, Kanoa Resort

11:30am – 1:00pm

The cost of attendance is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for SHRM non-members and includes lunch. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Ms. Malou Jardinero at 234-6601 or e-mail her at malou_jardinero@tanholdings.com.

International Buffet



ISLA CAFE

Every Mondays to Sunday
6:00pm to 9:30pm
Regular price: \$22.00 with 20% local discount
Children 4 to 11 yrs old: \$11.00

Weekend Lobby Food Fair!

EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
6:00 - 9:00PM
Food \$1.00, \$2.00 and \$3.00 menu



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

MCS inducts 13 students into National Honor Society

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mount Carmel School recently inducted 13 of its students into its National Honor Society, the nation's premier organization that recognizes outstanding high school students.

The new members of the chapter organization are Rikki Carmen Camacho, Savannah Lynn Delos Santos, Amalina Evangelista, Emiri Iwai, Cathryn Jane Javier, Bo Min Jun, Michelle Kautz, Andrea Manese, Thomas Manglona II, Jonathan Pangelinan, Itchakomi Romolar, Masami Sato, Jun Hyun "Tony" Son, and Franchesca Tomokane.

Being inducted into the prestigious society was a personal triumph for Franchesca Tomokane. "For me, it's such a privilege because I never thought I would get in. This proves to me that everything is possible if you put your all into it," she said.

The 13 students were selected by a faculty council that reviewed applications from sophomores and upperclassmen who have maintained a grade point average of 3.0 and have demonstrated volunteerism, exemplary behavior, and leadership.

The induction ceremony was held last week at Mount Carmel Cathedral and was keynoted by Juanet Sablan, 2005 AlumKnight and former MCS National Honor Society member.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The newest members of Mount Carmel School's Sacred Heart Chapter of the National Honor Society gather with school officials and keynote speaker, 2005 AlumKnight Juanet Sablan.

In her message, Sablan emphasized how both the society and her alma mater helped her succeed in college and in her career. Admitting that she used

to be a very shy person, she recounted how she eventually became much more outgoing and confident by entering the field of human resources.

Sablan called on all students, not just members of NHS, to live the society's values of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

After the ceremony, the inductees and their families were treated to light refreshments at the school's faculty lounge.

Established in 1921, the Na-

tional Honor Society has more than one million student members. Mount Carmel School's Sacred Heart Chapter of the NHS started in 1997.

Saint Patrick's Day

Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign

March 17, 2014



**BUZZED DRIVING
IS DRUNK DRIVING**

When they start to look tall and handsome
it's time to find your designated driver.



Don't be charmed this Saint Patrick's Day. DESIGNATE A SOBER DRIVER.

CNMI Department of Public Safety. For more information call:
SAIPAN 664-9001/2 • TINIAN 433-9222 • ROTA 532-9433



COTA touts 5-year service plan

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority's Saipan Fixed Flex Route and Paratransit Systems plan will come at a reasonable cost through its five-year service plan.

The service plan that was studied by Transit Consulting Network back in 2013 was developed as a start-up service plan, including an expansion plan based on the estimated ridership growth and the building of a higher level of service.

The service plan will ensure that proper rolling stock and technologies are in place; there is core service between Garapan and the south end of Saipan, which all other routes would be timed to meet; service growth occurs when demands meet the policy framework; Call-a-Ride hours of service will mirror that of the fixed flex-route service at a minimum; and seven community buses will be needed.

According to information on the service plan, Route 1, which is the Garapan-Saipan-South, would be the core service that all other routes must be built upon through timed transfers. The core service will be the most frequent service, must be reliable, and comfortable for quick transfers. It is supposedly designed to be the most productive, most effective, and most efficient route in the network.

The route network will be launched as different routes that

will take different buses.

■ Route 1 will be from Garapan to the south, which will be a fixed flex-route bus.

■ Route 2 will be from As Matuis to Garapan, which will be a fixed flex-route bus.

■ Route 3 will be from Kagman to Garapan with a smaller bus.

■ Route 4 will be from Kagman to Dandan to the Northern Marianas College.

■ Route 5 will be from Navy Hill to Garapan, which will be interlined with Route 3.

The Call-A-Ride paratransit service is presently the island's only public transit service and will continue to be so until the

fixed-flex route transit begins. It will continue as the mobility option for people who are unable to use the fixed-flex route service due to a disability.

The system will provide buses 13 hours a day from Monday through Saturday from 6am to 7pm.

A feeder service from As Matuis, Navy Hill, Kagman, and Dandan will be provided sometime at least during the peak periods and for two hours during the mid-day off-peak period, Monday through Saturday.

The bus route system will first be launched on Saipan and eventually on Tinian and Rota. *(Jayson Camacho)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



A special birthday wish for our Oregonian baby girl, Olivia Mollyjin D. Um, who is celebrating her first birthday! With lots of love from Grandma, Grandpa, Nina and Nino Delos Reyes, and your entire Saipan family. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy Beer Day to Patrick Arriola aka China Man! Enjoy your special day. We love you. Greetings come from Franky, Valerie, Verna, Polly, Krystal, Connie, and your Americana Po'asu. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



GOOD NEWS! U-LUCK POKER

is happy to announce that we are having a raffle to acknowledge all our valued customers. We want to express our deepest gratitude by having the following raffles.



GRAND PRIZE!
2014 TOYOTA YARIS
WORTH \$18,800

1st Prize	ROUND TRIP TICKET FROM SAIPAN TO NEW YORK, USA (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$1500/EA.
2nd Prize	ROUND TRIP TICKET FROM SAIPAN TO SHANGHAI, CHINA (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$1000.00/EA.
3rd Prize	ONE WEEK ACCOMMODATION AT SUNSHINE GARDEN (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$623.00/EA.
4th Prize	SCOOTER (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$500.00/EA.
5th Prize	GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR SUNSHINE RESTAURANT (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$200.00/EA.

Please see the table chart below on how to get your raffle ticket

BET	STRAIGHT FLUSH	5 OF A KIND	ROYAL FLUSH
10 bet - 18 bet (\$0.05)	2 ticket	4 ticket	8 ticket
5 bet (\$0.25)	2 ticket	5 ticket	25 ticket
6 bet - 10 bet (\$0.25)	5 ticket	10 ticket	50 ticket
11 bet - 20 bet (\$0.25)	10 ticket	20 ticket	100 ticket
21 bet - 40 bet (\$1.00)	20 ticket	40 ticket	200 ticket

"ALL PRIZES CAN'T BE EXCHANGE INTO CASH"

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

January 13, 2014

To All Our Valued Customers:

We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to all our valued customers by giving good prizes on our raffle promo, but unfortunately, the Department of Finance informed us that the regulations specifically limits the prizes to merchandise valuing less than \$35,000.00 and prohibits cash prizes.

We would like to express our deepest apology regarding the changes we've had to make in order for our raffle promo to go on.

We hope for your understanding and continued support.

U-LUCK POKER MANAGEMENT

Tel: 233-0108 • Garapan next to Kimchi Cabana Karaoke
30 days left before raffle day! Raffle date: April 12, 2014



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The Power to Surprise



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Pushing the boundaries even further



Always moving forward, always evolving... that's the Soul. This exuberant, head-turning car has been given a makeover, with its unique design made even more unique through enhanced detailing, tweaked proportions and modern touches that give it a premium feel from top to bottom.



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Perhaps you never thought innovation, technical excellence and exceptional style could all come together in an affordable passenger car. But finally, they do. Let the new Forte take you places you've only imagined.



SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. — FRI. 8 AM — 6 PM • SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. (670) 234-5562

Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit • See dealer for details • While Supplies last. **EPA Estimated hwy mpg.

* Kia Soul LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$300.90 or \$138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$18,054.00.
** Kia Forte LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$300.90 or \$138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$18,054.00.

Boka Boka: An authentic Chamorro restaurant

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Marianne Teregeyo was very specific when she first envisioned the idea of opening her own restaurant.

She and her husband have long noted the lack of restaurants on Saipan that exclusively offer local dishes.

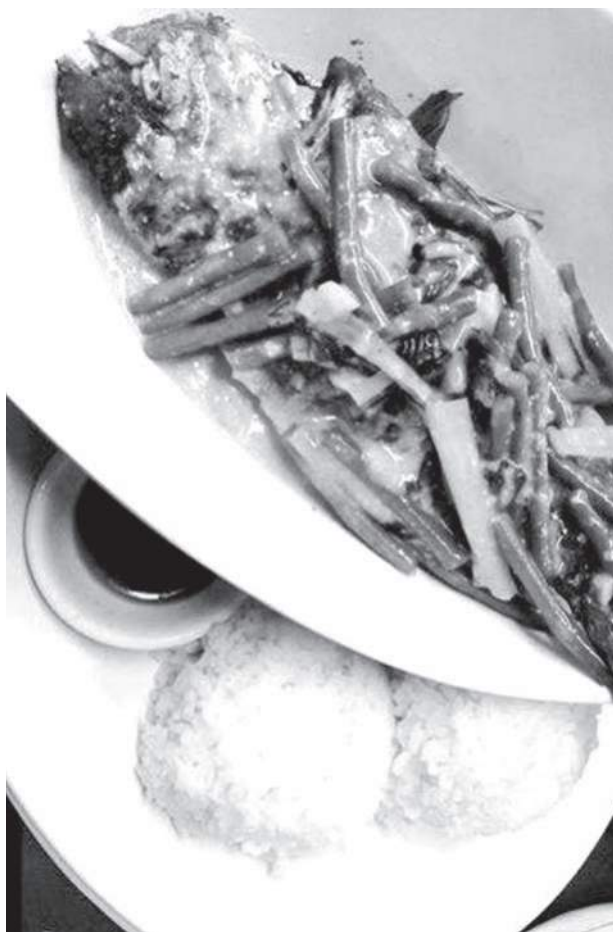
If you wanted to taste local food, you'd have to go to local baby showers, weddings, birthday parties, barbecues, or to what locals celebrate as a deceased person's new life, the *Lisayu* (the Chamorro term for rosary).

"My family and I have always been eating out and sometimes we'd want local food and the only possible way to get local food is either at a local restaurant or a party," she said.

That's when the idea of opening Boka Boka came to her—as a restaurant where families can enjoy home-made dishes while having conversations over breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

The newly opened restaurant, located at the ground floor of the CDA building (formerly Morgen Building) along Beach Road in San Jose, is now fast becoming the go-to place whenever one craves for authentic Chamorro dishes.

As soon as you enter the front door, an invigorating smell of local style dishes tickles your nose and teases the palate. You'd be sure to get the personal treatment from the Teregeyos as Marianne and her husband



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Eskabeche is one of the customer favorites at Boka Boka Restaurant.

are the restaurant's only staff, with one working in the kitchen and the other serving and entertaining customers.

The menu, which is printed in both

Chamorro and English, features a variety of food choices for any hungry customer craving for local food. There are 40 Chamorro entrees, three soup dishes, three local-style

CONTACT INFO
Tel: 235-2652



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Fried Oreos is one of the delicious desserts at the Boka Boka Restaurant.

side dishes, five choices of pancakes and waffles, two local noodle dishes, and 11 types of drinks.

The most ordered dish is the *eskabeche*, which is a dish of poached or fried fish with vegetables in a vinegar sauce with the addition of a thicken-

ing agent such as flour or corn starch. Other customer favorites are *kelaguin* and *katdun pika* (usually cooked with chicken and added spice).

Among the drinks they serve is fresh coconut juice, which is a mere \$2. This is something you normally don't see in restaurants.

Saipan Tribune had the chance to taste the *eskabeche* and it tasted really good. The sauce on top of the parrotfish, with added string beans and *finadenne*, made the dish a delight. To top it all, the fried Oreos for the side dish was great and sweet appetite filler. (Note: The *eskabeche* was quite a lot, *Saipan Tribune* wrapped it up for later.)

Another great thing about Boka Boka is that seasonal local dishes are also available such as local-style octopus and many more.

Customers can also order food for takeout for special occasions.

Teregeyo said that tourists also visit Boka Boka and even want to return to the restaurant if they ever visit Saipan again. "We've had tourists come in and later ask if they can give information to their friends when they visit."

Aside from tourists, Teregeyo said local customers and travelers from Guam often count as the restaurant's main customers.

Teregeyo hopes that Boka Boka will be able to make its debut at the Taste of the Marianas in 2015.

For more information or to reserve a table, call 235-2652. For more updates, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Bokabokasaipan.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION TO BID ITB14-GOV-065

Roof Repair & Coating of the Ada Gymnasium & Guma Husitia - Judicial Complex

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, are soliciting sealed bids for the Roof Repair & Coating of the Ada Gymnasium & Guma Husitia - Judicial Complex

The project package will be available Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing **no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on March 7, 2014** to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia of the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB14-GOV-065". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, March 21, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time March 21, 2014, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticm.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than March 21, 2014 and must be received no later than March 28, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 1:00 p.m. Saipan local time, March 28, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 1:30 p.m. Saipan local time, on March 21, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations NMIC Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P & S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

- Acceptable asset are only:
- 1) Cash
 - 2) US Government Securities
 - 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
 - 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
 - 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is sixty (60) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by sixty (60) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp



The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

Lot No.: 003 D 16	ADETFA ST. GARAPAN (Annex), SAIPAN	MINIMUM BID: \$83,700.00
Lot No.: 003 D 22	AEDTFA ST. GARAPAN (Annex), SAIPAN	MINIMUM BID: \$76,950.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on March 17, 2014, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be \$(please see above).
- Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
- Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 18th day of February, 2014.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

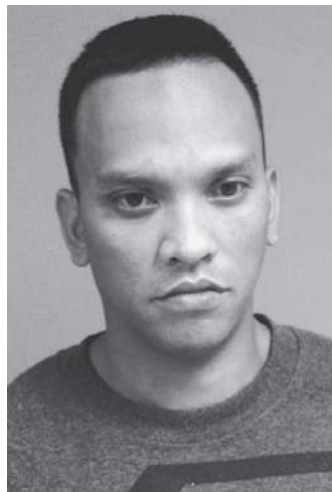
GPD: 3 suspects in Bank of Guam robbery arrested

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Guam police arrested Wednesday night three suspects in the Feb. 6 armed robbery of the Yigo branch of the Bank of Guam.

They have been identified as Ricky Chris McIntosh Jr. of Dededo, 35; Vincent David Santos of Mangilao, 41; and Jathan John Pangelinan Tedtaotao, 18.

GPD spokesman A.J. Bala-jadia said that McIntosh and Tedtaotao were the alleged masked men who entered the bank, while Santos is accused of being the getaway driver.

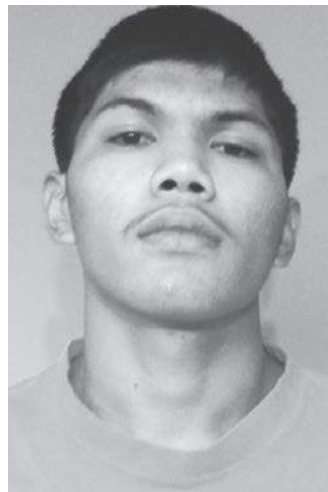
A fourth suspect in the bank robbery, Antonio Roke Quitugua, was arrested on Saturday March 1. He is accused of being a look-



McIntosh Jr.



Santos



Tedtaotao

out in the bank robbery. On Wednesday, Quitugua entered a plea of not guilty to various robbery, theft and conspiracy charges.

It was Quitugua's March 2 magistrate's report that first revealed that police already knew the names of the suspects who they believed committed the

Bank of Guam robbery. And it is now known that the fourth, unnamed suspect in that magistrate report is Jathan John Pangelinan Tedtaotao.

Vincent Santos is the stepfather of Jathan Tedtaotao. Both were already in custody on different charges.

Santos was being held for the Feb. 7 theft of a black 2004 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck from the GMH parking lot, which occurred one day after the Bank of Guam robbery.

And Santos' stepson Jathan was being held on a burglary charge related to the Feb. 2 theft of firearms from a Yigo home. Six firearms and about 200 rounds of ammunition were stolen. This robbery occurred four days prior to the Yigo bank robbery.

McIntosh is being held for second-degree robbery, criminal facilitation, terrorizing, conspiracy, theft of property, reckless conduct, use of a deadly weapon in the commission of a felony, and guilt established by complicity.

Santos was arrested for second-degree robbery, criminal facilitation, terrorizing, conspiracy, theft of property, reckless conduct, use of a deadly weapon in the commission of a felony, and guilt established by complicity.

Tedtaotao is accused of second-degree robbery, theft by threatening, and conspiracy.

Bordallo raises ship repair and realignment at Navy hearing

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) attended yesterday a posture hearing of the House Armed Services Committee to address the President's budget proposal for the Department of the Navy for fiscal year 2015. Bordallo stressed the need to maintain a robust depot-level ship repair facility with dry dock capability in Guam to support readiness in the Asia-Pacific region. She also highlighted the importance of the signing of a landfill permit for a Futenma Replacement Facility and removing restrictions on Government of Japan funds for

the buildup.

Adm. Jonathan Greenert, chief of Naval Operations, agreed with Bordallo on the need to maintain a ship repair facility in Guam. Greenert committed to moving the ship repair contract along and ensuring that our skilled labor force remains on island.

Gen. James Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps, testified that Congress should remove the restrictions placed on the Marine Corps' ability to use funds already contributed by the Government of Japan for the re-

alignment and contained in both the Marine Corps' and Japan's budgets. This funding is necessary to build the facilities the Marine Corps' needs on Guam.

"Maintaining a ship repair facility with a dry dock capability on Guam is critical to supporting military readiness in the Western Pacific," said Bordallo. "Over the years, Guam has recruited and trained a highly specialized workforce able to support a ship repair capability. I continue to work to preserve this skilled workforce and ensure they have job opportunities that best utilize their specialties. I appreciate Ad-

miral Greenert's commitment to maintaining this capability locally, and I look forward to working with him to get these employees back to work.

"I also look forward to working with General Amos as we begin consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015 to remove the restrictions on using Government of Japan funds for the realignment. I hope to build on the progress made in last year's defense bill that eased restrictions so that we can capitalize on funds already available for the buildup." (PR)

High surf and small craft advisory

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management reminded the public yesterday that a high surf advisory remains in effect until 6pm today, Friday.

According to the agency, a combination of east and north swell will produce hazardous surf along east and north facing reefs. Hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet is expected along north facing reefs today, falling to hazardous at 7 to 9 feet through this afternoon. Surf will fall below hazardous levels to 6 to 8 feet by Friday evening.

Hazardous surf is projected to fall below hazardous levels to 8 to 11 feet by Friday morning.

A small craft advisory re-

mains in effect until 6pm Friday.

Winds of 23 to 29 mph and combined seas of 11 to 12 feet will produce hazardous conditions for operators of small craft. Winds will diminish to 17 to 23 mph by Friday but seas will remain hazardous through Friday afternoon.

Mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution, especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. Avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along north facing reefs as rip currents are life threatening. (PR)

**If You Bought
Computers,
Printers, Video
Game Consoles,
or Other Devices
with Memory**

**Get Money from
\$310 million
Settlement**

**Simple Online
Claim Form
Takes 3-5 Minutes**

**State Attorneys General
are Participating**

There are class action Settlements involving DRAM, a memory part that is sold by itself or as part of electronic devices such as computers, printers, and video game consoles.

The lawsuits claim that the Defendants fixed the price of DRAM causing individuals and businesses to pay more for DRAM and DRAM-containing devices. The Defendants deny that they did anything wrong.

Who is included in the Settlements?

Individuals and businesses that:

- Purchased DRAM or a device containing DRAM anywhere in the U.S. between 1998 and 2002,
- For their own use or for resale.

Purchases made directly from a DRAM manufacturer are not included (see the list of manufacturers at www.DRAMclaims.com or by calling 1-800-589-1425).

What do the Settlements provide?

The combined Settlements total \$310 million. The amount of money you will receive depends on the type and quantity of electronic devices you purchased and the total number of claims made.

Eligible individuals and businesses are expected to get a minimum \$10 payment and perhaps much more. Large purchasers could recover many thousands of dollars.

How can I get a payment?

Claim online or by mail by **August 1, 2014**. The simple online Claim Form only takes 3-5 minutes for most individuals.

What are my rights?

Even if you do nothing you will be bound by the Court's decisions. If you want to keep your right to sue the Defendants yourself, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class by **May 5, 2014**. If you stay in the Settlement Class, you may object to the Settlements by **May 5, 2014**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **June 25, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.** to consider whether to approve the Settlements and a request for attorneys' fees up to 25% of the Settlement Fund, plus reimbursement of costs and expenses. You or your own lawyer may appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For More Information:

1-800-589-1425 www.DRAMclaims.com

Text: "DRAM" to 96000

(You may receive notifications via text. Message & Data rates may apply.)

2014 MMAC gains 2 title sponsors and 1 major sponsor so far



JAYSON CAMACHO

Take Care/FHP clinic supervisor Nora Sablan, center, hands a \$3,500 check to MMAC chair Manny Borja. They are joined by Take Care/FHP staff, Commonwealth Cancer Association members, and the MMAC committee members.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 14-OPA-080**

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 09, 2014 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"FINANCIAL AUDITS FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND (NMRF), WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION (WCC) and GROUP HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE TRUST FUND (GHLTF) OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2013"

THE AUDIT GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE PUBLIC AUDITOR'S MAIN OFFICE AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, EXCEPT HOLIDAYS.

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. ROSS ZAPANTA, ANALYST MANAGER, AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS (670) 322-6481/2 OR BY FACSIMILE TO (670) 322-7812.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/s/ MICHAEL PAL CPA
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

The 2014 Marianas March Against Cancer organizing committee has so far secured one major sponsor and two title sponsors

for Commonwealth Cancer Association's signature fundraising event of the year.

Traders Insurance Co. was

named the first major sponsor of the 2014 MMAC after the company donated \$1,000 on Feb. 19, 2014.

"[Traders Insurance Co.'s] support in the fight against cancer is commendable," said MMAC committee chair Manny Borja.

Krizia Mendoza, the Luminary committee chair and underwriter of Traders Insurance Co., said, "We are excited to once again be a part of such a noble cause. MMAC has helped so much people of the CNMI and we are happy to be a part of this help. We urge the community and other businesses to join us in making this MMAC year a successful one."

Delta Air Lines became the 2014 MMAC's first title sponsor with a donation of one economy class ticket to the United States, one economy class ticket to Japan, and \$300 travel credit voucher, all of which will be raffled off as prizes at the MMAC.

"The 2014 MMAC committee extends its gratitude to Delta Air Lines for their generous support in the fight against cancer. Their contribution is sincerely appreciated," Borja said.

Delta Air Lines sales executive Chris A. Concepcion, said that they are pleased to once again be a title sponsor of CCA's annual fundraiser.

"We support the CCA's efforts in their battle against this deadly affliction. We know that

cancer is a leading cause of death in the CNMI so we are glad to put our support behind this noble cause," said Concepcion.

Delta turned in its donation on Feb. 25, 2014.

Take Care/FHP became the 2014 MMAC's second title sponsor with a donation of \$3,500 on March 11, 2014.

"We've been title sponsors since 2008, and it's a great cause! We try to help out as much as we can to give back to the community. There's nothing better than partnering up with MMAC," Take Care clinic supervisor Nora Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Noting that this is the seventh year that Take Care/FHP has been donating to the MMAC, Borja said, "We are very grateful that Take Care has been donating."

"We are looking forward to more donations by actively communicating with partners in the community that we've had in the past and also those who are willing to help," he added.

MMAC's level of sponsorship ranges from title sponsorship (\$3,000+) and major sponsorship (\$1,000-\$2,999) to supporting sponsorship (\$1-\$999).

The 2014 MMAC will be held on May 2-3 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao. (*Jayson Camacho*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kiriza Mendoza, seated left, hands over a \$1,000 check to MMAC chair Manny Borja. They are joined by employees of Traders Insurance and MMAC committee members.

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D'TORRES BUILDING, GARAPAN
P.O. Box 504340
SAIPAN, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND)	CIVIL ACTION NO.: 13-0111
Plaintiff,)	
v.)	NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NICOLAS MAREHAM NEKAJ and BERNADITA MANGLONA ATALIG)	
Defendants.)	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 18, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right and interests of Defendants in and to the following real property, located in Kagman, Saipan:

Lot No. 002 G 300, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07, the original of which was recorded on May 14, 1990 as Document No. 90-1904 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, CNMI.

1. Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale is open to the general public (including the Defendants), and will be held on **Thursday, April 10, 2014**, at the hour of **2:00 p.m.** at the entrance to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, D'Torres Bldg, Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI. Registration for the auction sale will begin at 1:45 p.m.

2. Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 10th day of March, 2014.

/s/ MICHELLE W. BREL, Auctioneer
P.O. Box 504340, Saipan
Tel: (670) 235-8060
Fax: (670) 235-8070
E-mail: michbrel@hotmail.com

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Petitioner, Xu Wenping)	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0475
vs.)	
Wang Guozhi)	SUMMONS FOR
Respondent,)	PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 504251 CK, Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 3rd day of March, 2014.

/s/ Clerk of Court

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB14-DLNR/DFW-073

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 03, 2014 TIME: 1:00 P.M.

"TO PURCHASE FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (FAD) RIGGING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Secretary of DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB14-HSEM-072

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 08, 2014 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) PORTABLE SHELTER SYSTEMS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MARVIN K. SEMAN
Special Assistant, HSEM

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Business

Bad decade: Malaysia Airlines has catalog of woes

HONG KONG (AP)—Within an industry notorious for impoverishing shareholders and irking customers, Malaysia Airlines has stood out for its years of restructurings and losses. The company now has global recognition of a far more unfavorable kind after one of its jets disappeared four days ago with 239 people aboard.

There has been no suggestion that the unrelenting financial pressures faced by the airline and its 19,000 employees somehow played a role in the disappearance of flight MH370 en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. But the revelation this week that the jet's co-pilot allowed two female passengers to ride in the cockpit for the duration of a flight two years ago has invited scrutiny of the professionalism of top-level staff.

KUALALUMPUR, Malaysia—GM excluded crash deaths from ignition investigation

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors excluded the Saturn Ion from a Feb. 13 recall for faulty ignition switches after engineers inexplicably failed to look at fatal crashes involving the compact car.

The cars were recalled two weeks later, after another inquiry found four crashes involving 2004 Ions that killed four people, according to a GM chronology of the recall posted on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website Wednesday night.

According to the chronology, GM employees were told about most of the Ion crash deaths within two weeks of when they occurred. So GM knew about the deaths but still failed to consider them until this year.

The exclusion of the crash deaths will likely be scrutinized

Obama wants overtime pay for more salaried workers

WASHINGTON (AP)—By-passing Congress, President Barack Obama intends to order changes in overtime rules so employers would be required to pay millions more workers for the extra time they put in on the job.

The rules, which would not likely take effect until 2015, are aimed at workers currently designated as supervisory employees but who are exempt from overtime because they get paid a salary of more than \$455 a week. Obama plans to order his Labor Department to recommend regulations that would increase that salary threshold and change the definition of what constitutes a supervisor.

Obama's attention to overtime dovetails with his emphasis on correcting wage disparities, a theme that he has said



Ground staff work on a Malaysia Airlines plane at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Malaysia, Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

sia (AP)—Malaysia Airlines has retired the missing jetliner's flight code as a sign of respect to the 239 passengers and crew on board.

The airline said Thursday it

by two congressional committees and the Justice Department, all of which are investigating why it took so long for GM to recall the cars. The company has acknowledged knowing about deadly ignition switches at least a decade ago, yet it failed to recall 1.6 million compact cars until last month. In addition, NHTSA is investigating whether GM withheld information from the safety agency or didn't disclose it as quickly as required by law.

The chronology didn't say why the engineers excluded the Ion crash deaths from their inquiry, which took place in 2011. GM spokesman Greg Martin said he could not comment on why the Ion crashes were left out. He said GM added to the recall after a review of data including crashes.

will be central to the remainder of his presidential term. It also serves his political ends during a midterm election year, giving him a populist issue along with his calls for a higher minimum wage and better pay for women.

The president's directive, to be announced Thursday, leaves the details of a proposed rule to the Labor Department, which is not expected to come up with a recommendation before the fall. Still, it drew swift protests from Republicans who complained he was side-stepping Congress and from the business community, who said such rules would increase burdens on employers.

"How does he expect us to work with him?" complained Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. "It's just a poisonous relationship."

will no longer be using MH370 and MH371, the same codes used by the Boeing 777 that vanished from radar screens on its way from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on Saturday. A massive search involving satellites, planes and ships has found no trace of the aircraft.

MH370 was used for Kuala Lumpur-Beijing route and MH371 for a return flight.

Starting Friday, Malaysia Airlines said it will use codes MH318 and MH319 for twice-a-day flights to and from Beijing.

■ ■ ■

"Our thoughts and prayers

remain with the families of our colleagues and passengers of MH370," the airline said in a statement.

Among Asian carriers, Malaysia Airlines has built a reputation for high-standard service and safety since being founded in 1937, bagging an array of industry awards in recent years for its food, cabin crew and overall service. Its most recent fatal incident was nearly two decades ago, when one of its planes crashed near the Malaysian city of Tawau, killing 34.

Yet the accolades in the past decade have not been sufficient to halt the ebb of customers and

revenue to low-cost competitors, mostly notably to AirAsia founded in 2001 by Malaysian businessman Tony Fernandes. The nimbler discount competitors have expanded rapidly, while Malaysia Airlines has been like a supertanker, slow to change direction. State ownership and a powerful union have impeded efforts to adapt.

Travelers are likely to "shun" the airline in reaction to "an incident of such proportion" as a jet vanishing, said Shukor Yusof, aviation analyst at S&P Capital IQ, a division of Standard & Poor's. "It's going to make things even worse," he said.



03.29.14

WALK FOR THE RED

28th Annual Walkathon

Northern Mariana Islands

Saipan • Rota • Tinian

Start Time: 6:00am • Location: 4-H building-Susupe

****Saturday, March 29, 2014****

Lots of fun for the whole family

10K, 5K, and 2K courses

A \$20.00 donation receives a t-shirt and mini first aid kit

Free sandwich and refreshments for walkers

DPH Health Fair • Immunizations • Blood Pressure Checks

Cooking demonstration • Carnival Games

DPS-Fire big truck show • Petting Zoo • Face Painting

Please support the American Red Cross

For more information please call the NMI Chapter at 234-3459

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Nation

Gas blast destroys 2 NY buildings; 3 people dead

NEW YORK (AP)—A gas leak triggered an earthshaking explosion that flattened two apartment buildings on Wednesday, killing at least three people, injuring more than 60 and leaving nine missing. A tenant said residents had complained repeatedly in recent weeks about “unbearable” gas smells.

By evening, rescue workers finally began the search for victims amid the broken bricks, splintered wood and mangled metal after firefighters spent most of the day dousing the flames. Heavy equipment, including back hoes and a bulldozer, arrived to clear the mountain of debris where the two five-story East Harlem buildings stood. Flood lights were in place. Thermal imag-



Emergency workers respond to the scene of an explosion that leveled two apartment buildings in the East Harlem neighborhood of New York, Wednesday, March 12, 2014. AP

sinkhole caused by a subsurface water main break, officials said.

The fiery blast, on Park Avenue at 116th Street, not far from the edge of Central Park, erupted about 9:30 a.m., around 15 minutes after a neighboring resident reported smelling gas, authorities said. The Con Edison utility said it immediately sent workers to check out the report, but they didn't arrive until it was too late.

The explosion shattered windows a block away, rained debris onto elevated commuter railroad tracks close by, cast a plume of smoke over the skyline and sent people running into the streets.

“It felt like an earthquake had rattled my whole building,” said Waldemar Infante, a porter who was working in a basement nearby. “There were glass shards everywhere on the ground, and all the stores had their windows blown out.”

Hunter College identified one of the people killed in the blast as Griselde Camacho, a security officer who worked at the Sil-

berman School of Social Work building. Hunter, in a statement on its website, said Camacho, 45, had worked for the college since 2008.

Another of the people who died was Carmen Tanco, 67, a dental hygienist. Her cousin News 12 cameraman Angel Vargas said when she didn't show up for work Wednesday the family started a frantic search.

The identity of the third victim wasn't immediately disclosed.

At least three of the injured were children; one, a 15-year-old boy, was reported in critical condition with burns, broken bones and internal injuries. Most of the other victims' injuries were minor and included cuts and scrapes.

Fire officials said some people were unaccounted for but cautioned they may not have been in the buildings.

A tenant in one of the destroyed buildings, Ruben Borrero, said residents had complained to the landlord about smelling gas as recently as Tuesday.

ing cameras were at the ready to identify heat spots - bodies or pockets of fire.

The recovery was facing hardship in the form of the weather, which was expected to drop into the 20s with rain. Some parts of the debris pile were inaccessible because of a

Honor student who sued parents returns home

By **SAMANTHA HENRY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROSELAND, N.J. (AP)—The New Jersey honor student who sued to get her parents to support her after she moved out of their home has reunited with them, and the family is now asking for privacy.

Rachel Canning moved back in with her parents after speaking with her mother Tuesday, but without any promises of financial support or other consideration, according to lawyers for the teen and her parents.

A state judge Wednesday denied a request from Canning's attorney asking for a court-appointed guardian for

the 18-year-old to be paid for by her parents. The denied application for immediate relief also requested that the courtroom be closed for future hearings, the records sealed and all parties prohibited from speaking to the media.

“It is critical that if Rachel does dismiss this matter that she does so of her own free will and not due to the extreme pressure of her parents and the media,” her attorney, Tanya N. Helfand, wrote in the court filing.

Phone and email messages to Helfand were not immediately returned.

Angelo Sarno, the lawyer for Cannings' parents, said that the notoriety surrounding the suit

had damaged the family.

“This is a matter that should have been brought in some counselor's office, not into a courtroom,” Sarno said. “There's a long road ahead, this is not something that's going to happen overnight. The point of this process? The healing needs to begin.”

Last week, State Superior Court Judge Peter Bogaard denied the teen's request for child support and to have her parents pay her remaining high school tuition. But the judge scheduled an April court date to consider the over-arching question of whether the Cannings are obligated to financially support their adult daughter.

ACROSS THE NATION

3 dead after pileups on snowy Ohio Turnpike

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)—Pileups on the Ohio Turnpike involving at least 50 vehicles killed three people and seriously injured a state trooper on Wednesday as a late-winter storm swept through the Midwest and the Northeast, ending a fleeting spring-like thaw. Emergency workers on the busy toll road struggled to reach accidents and stuck vehicles because of snowy conditions and traffic backups. Pileups stretched across a 2-mile section in the eastbound lanes of the turnpike between Toledo and Cleveland. Another series of pileups about 10 miles to the east shut down the turnpike's westbound lanes near Sandusky. Drivers sat for hours, a few braving the cold to stretch their legs, said Mike Ramella, a salesman from the Cleveland suburb of Westlake.

Lawyer: Dad doesn't deny tossing toddler in creek

FREEHOLD, N.J. (AP)—The lawyer for a man charged with killing his 2-year-old daughter by tossing her into a creek while still strapped into her car seat said Wednesday the real question for the jury is not whether he did it but whether he was

thinking clearly that night. Arthur Morgan III of Eatontown is accused of weighing down the seat with a tire-changing jack so it would sink. He is charged with killing his daughter, Tierra Morgan-Glover, in what prosecutors claim was a premeditated, jealous rage because the girl's mother would not get back together with him. The child's body was found partially submerged in a creek at a Jersey shore park on Nov. 22, 2011, one tiny black and purple sneaker sticking out of the water.

FBI hunting Hawaii for top domestic terror suspect

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The FBI said Wednesday agents are hunting in Hawaii for the nation's most wanted domestic terrorism suspect. The FBI office in San Francisco said the agency received “credible intelligence” that Daniel Andreas San Diego might be on the state's Big Island. Agents are searching for him in the island's eastern district of Puna and in the small, eclectic town of Pahoa. San Diego, 36, is suspected to be an animal rights extremist. He is charged with exploding pipe bombs in front of two San Francisco Bay Area companies with ties to a lab that conducted animal experiments.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for Terminal Improvements at the Tinian International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-TA-002-08 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950.

All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Tinian International Airport, Terminal Improvements, Project No. CPA-TA-002-08 and must be submitted no later than **2:00 PM on FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2014** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to, demolition, building and site improvements and includes concrete foundations, concrete slabs-on-grade, cast-in-place concrete, roof membrane, metal roofing, concrete masonry unit walls, non-structural metal framing, carpentry, gypsum board, ceramic tile, resilient flooring, acoustical ceilings, aluminum doors and frames, aluminum windows, glazing, door hardware, cabinetry, toilet partitions, toilet accessories, signage, flag poles, baggage conveyors, waiting room seating, painting, ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing, electrical lighting and power, complete and ready for use all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from CNMI Capital Improvement Program. The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

The Contract period for construction of the Project in its entirety shall be two hundred seventy (270) calendar days. Liquidated damages in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low Bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” The review will include, but is not necessarily limited to, previous projects experience, financial capability, quantity and quality of equipment and personnel, and ability to secure bonding and insurance. If the apparent low Bidder is found to be not “responsive and responsible”, their Bid will be rejected and the next lowest Bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the Project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by CNMI Law or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract. A copy of the CNMI Minimum Wage Rate Determination is included in the General Provisions, Section 70-25.

Each Bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the “Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause”, a “Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities”, and the “Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation”, as contained in the Bid Proposal documents, with submission of their Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, upon payment of **TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the “Commonwealth Ports Authority”.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the Tinian International Airport, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this Project. Attendance of the Pre-Bid Conference is mandatory. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the Pre-Bid Conference date.

Bid Proposals shall be submitted on the Bid Proposal form included in the CD-Rom obtained from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all Bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding Bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the Bid Schedule or misentry of the quantity of line items; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the Project Contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said Bids if, in its sole opinion, to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed Contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the Regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

Each Bidder must supply all information required by the Bid documents and Specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the Specifications. Bid Proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority office at no cost.

A Contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the Specifications. To be eligible for award, each Bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit Bids in response to this Invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, in consideration for an award of any Contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each Bid shall be accompanied by either a Bid Bond issued by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, Certified Check, or a Cashier's Check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the Bid amount. Checks shall be made payable to the “Commonwealth Ports Authority”.

The proposed Contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 11, 2014

Asia

Malaysia: No debris at spot shown on China images

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—No signs of the missing Malaysian jetliner have been found at a spot where Chinese satellite images showed what might be plane debris, Malaysia's civil aviation chief said Thursday, deflating the latest lead in the five-day hunt.

"There is nothing. We went there, there is nothing," Azharuddin Abdul Rahman told reporters in Kuala Lumpur.

Vietnamese officials previously said the area had been "searched thoroughly" in recent days.

The hunt for the Boeing 777 has been punctuated by false leads since it disappeared with 239 people aboard just hours after leaving Kuala Lumpur for Beijing early Saturday. The plane was heading northeast over the South China Sea when it disappeared, but authorities

US says China's blocking Filipino boats 'provocative'

WASHINGTON (AP)—China's blocking of supplies to a Philippine outpost in the South China Sea is "provocative" and raises tensions, the United States said Wednesday, in its latest criticism of China's assertive conduct in disputed seas of East Asia.

The Philippines, a U.S. ally, protested to China Tuesday its prevention of two Filipino vessels from taking supplies to troops on a decrepit military hospital ship that ran aground 15 years ago on the shallow coral outcrop of the Second Thomas Shoal. The rusty ship has since become the symbol of Philippine sovereignty over the area.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said the U.S. was troubled by the reported action by China's coast-guard. She said the Philippines has maintained a presence at the shoal since 1999, and other South

Gunmen kill 15 people in attack in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Dozens of gang members angered over the killing of one of their leaders opened fire on passers-by outside a market Wednesday in southern Pakistan, killing 15 people, police said.

The gunmen used machine guns and grenades in the attack that wounded more than 40 people in the Lyari neighborhood of Karachi, the capital of southern Sindh province, senior police officer Shah Nawaz said.

Nawaz said a notorious gang was behind the attack, and a massive search was underway Wednesday night to find and arrest all those who had killed "innocent women, children and men."

"They will not go unpunished," he said.

Another police officer, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, said police and paramilitary Rangers chased the gunmen and killed eight in a gun battle. He said supporters of



In this March 9, 2014 satellite image seen on the website of the Chinese State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense, floating objects are seen at sea next to the red arrow which was added by the source. China's Xinhua News Agency reported Wednesday that the images show suspected debris from the missing Malaysia Airlines jetliner floating off the southern tip of Vietnam.

ties believe it may have turned back and headed into the upper reaches of the Strait of Malacca or beyond.

The location where Chinese

China Sea claimant nations regularly resupply and repair their outposts without interference.

"This is a provocative move that raises tensions. Pending resolution of competing claims in the South China Sea, there should be no interference with the efforts of claimants to maintain the status quo," Psaki said in a statement.

China claims virtually the entire South China Sea, resource-rich waters where Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam also have claims to islands, islets and reefs. The Philippines in late January protested a Chinese water cannon attack on Filipino fishermen near another disputed shoal.

China's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday rejected the latest Philippine protest, saying it has "indisputable sovereignty" over the Second Thomas Shoal and the nearby Spratly islands.

a gang leader killed overnight in a shootout with police were behind the violence.

Television footage from the scene showed ambulances taking the wounded to hospitals.

Karachi is the largest city in Pakistan and home to various criminal gangs and militant groups.

Lyari is considered one of the city's more dangerous neighborhoods. Rival gangs often battle each other there. A January report by the International Crisis Group said gang members in Lyari operate like warlords and inter-gang warfare has included the use of mortars and other heavy weapons.

Hundreds of people have been killed in Lyari since 2009, and periodic operations by the paramilitary Rangers and police result in days of armed clashes, disrupting civilian life but not ending the violence, the report said.

images showed possible debris is not far from where the last confirmed position of the plane was between Malaysia and Vietnam. The images and coordinates were posted on the website of China's State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense.

A Xinhua report said the images from around 11 a.m. on Sunday appear to show "three suspected floating objects" of varying sizes in a 20-kilometer radius, the largest about 24-by-22 meters (79-by-72 feet) off the southern tip of Vietnam.

Pham Quy Tieu, deputy transport minister, told The Associated Press that the area had

been "searched thoroughly" by forces from other countries over the past few days. Doan Huu Gia, chief of air search and rescue coordination center, said Malaysian and Singaporean aircraft were scheduled to visit the area again Thursday.

Li Jiayang, chief of the Civil Aviation Administration of China, said later China had yet to confirm any link between the suspected floating objects and the plane.

Malaysia has come under some criticism for its handling of the search, which currently covers 35,800 square miles (92,600 square kilometers) and involves 12 nations.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†James Aldan Fleming

October 16, 1949 - March 08, 2014

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his
Wife: Constanza "Cris" Mendiola Fleming,
his children, grandchildren and families.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents: †Alfred Flores Fleming and †Rosalia Aldan Fleming
Parents In Law: †Santiago Atalig Mendiola and †Alouisa Sablan Manglona

Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each morning at
6:00am at San Jose Church, Tinian. Holy Rosary is recited each
evening at 7:00pm at San Jose Church, Tinian

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, March 17, 2014.
His remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center at 8:00am to
San Jose Church, Tinian. Responso Service will be at 8:30am followed by
Holy Rosary at 8:45am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at
10:00am. followed by Interment Service at Tinian Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers,

The Family



World

Ukraine accuses Russia of military buildup

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine accused Russia on Wednesday of conducting a large military buildup near the countries' border that raises the threat of an invasion, but Moscow denied that.

Andriy Parubiy, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, told reporters in Kiev that Russia has deployed more than 80,000 troops, up to 270 tanks and 140 combat planes close to the border, creating the "threat of a full-scale invasion from various directions."

Parubiy said Russian troops are based in the immediate vicinity of the Ukrainian border, some of them as close as a two- or three-hour drive from Kiev, the Ukrainian capital.

In Moscow, Deputy Defense Minister Anatoly Antonov denied a military buildup on the nearly 2,000-kilometer (1,250-mile) border.

He also said Moscow has accepted a request that Ukraine made Tuesday to conduct a surveillance flight over Russian territory.

Antonov said that while Russia was not obliged to allow such a flight, it decided to issue permission for one so that Ukraine can see for itself that "Russian armed forces aren't conducting any military activities near the border of Ukraine that could threaten its security."

Russian forces have secured control over Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, and Russia's parliament has given President Vladimir Putin permission to use the military to protect Russian speakers in Ukraine.



In this Saturday, March 8, 2014 file photo, an elderly woman watches a group of Cossacks march past a statue of Soviet revolutionary leader Vladimir Lenin in Simferopol, Ukraine.

Crimea plans to hold a referendum on Sunday that will ask residents if they want the territory to become part of Russia. Ukraine's government and Western nations have denounced the referendum as illegitimate and warned Russia against trying to annex Crimea.

Parubiy said Russia could try to seize government buildings in eastern regions of Ukraine and demand a referendum there. He said such plans have been thwarted, thanks to efforts of

Ukrainian law enforcement agencies.

Parubiy added that Ukrainian authorities have denied 3,700 Russian citizens permission to enter Ukraine because they were suspected of being involved in extremism and sabotage.

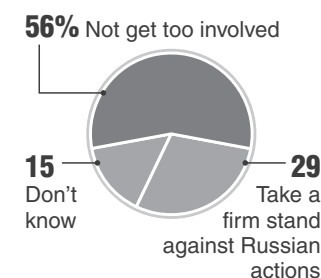
Crimea, where Russia maintains its Black Sea Fleet base, became the epicenter of tensions in Ukraine after President Viktor Yanukovich fled last month following months of protests.

No to Ukraine

The majority of Americans prefer the U.S. not get too involved in the situation with Russia and Ukraine.

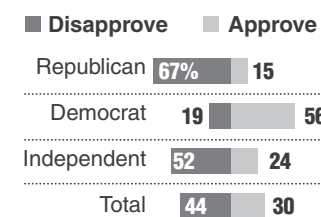
Staying out of it

Percent saying it is more important for the U.S. to ...



Across party lines

How respondents feel about the Obama administration's handling of the situation



© 2014 MCT
Source: Pew Research poll of 1,003 adults, March 6-9; margin of error: +/-3.6 percentage points

Obama calls for a 'rethinking' on Crimea vote

WASHINGTON (AP)—Counting down to a high-stakes Crimean referendum, President Barack Obama declared Wednesday that the U.S. would "completely reject" a vote opening the door for the strategic Ukrainian peninsula to join Russia if the election goes ahead on Sunday. Adding pressure on Russia, the Senate advanced a package of potentially tough economic sanctions against Moscow.

Obama made a point of welcoming Ukraine's new leader to the White House, declaring as they sat side-by-side that he hoped there would be a "rethinking" by Russian President Vladimir Putin of the referendum. Obama derided the vote as a "slap-dash referendum" and warned that if it occurs, the international community "will be forced to apply a cost to Russia's violation of international law."

Secretary of State John

Kerry also was talking tough, telling Congress, "It can get ugly fast if the wrong choices are made, and it can get ugly in multiple directions." Kerry will meet with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on Friday in London in a last-ditch effort to halt the referendum.

Amid the maneuvering, Obama met in the Oval Office with new Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, praising him and the Ukrainian people as the two sat for TV coverage. The meeting was aimed at showcasing the United States' commitment to Ukraine, the former Soviet republic at the center of rising tensions between East and West.

"There's another path available and we hope President Putin is willing to seize that path," Obama said. "But if he does not, I'm very confident that the international community will stand firmly behind the Ukrainian government."

Yatsenyuk, a 39-year-old pro-Western official who speaks fluent English, defiantly declared that his country "will never surrender" in its fight to protect its territory.

He arrived in Washington seeking financial help to stabilize his fledgling government. The Senate bill that advanced out of committee on Wednesday would authorize \$1 billion in loan guarantees.

The measure, which next would go to the full Senate, also would allow the Obama administration to impose economic penalties on Russian officials responsible for the intervention in Crimea or culpable of gross corruption.

"Putin has miscalculated by playing a game of Russian roulette with the international community, but we refuse to blink and will never accept this violation of international law," said Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

In Ukraine's east, some beg for Russian iron hand

LUHANSK, Ukraine (AP)—Lidia Gany had some tea and bread, all she can afford these days for most meals, put on her duffel coat with the fake purple fur collar, and came down to the main square of this down-at-the-heels industrial city at Ukraine's eastern edge to join fellow ethnic Russians in urging Moscow to send troops across the border and protect them.

"Only Russia can save us," said the 74-year-old pensioner, crossing herself.

Since Russian troops rolled into Crimea, and lawmakers there scheduled a referendum for Sunday on whether to join Russia, the world's attention has focused on the fate of the lush peninsula that juts into the Black Sea. But here in Ukraine's coal-fired industrial east, where huge numbers of Russians have lived for more than two centuries, a potent mix of economic depression, ethnic solidarity and nostalgia for the certainties of the Soviet past have many demanding the right to become part of Russia as well.

"I'm for living in one country, with no borders, like we used to. Like the fingers on one hand," said 60-year-old Lyudmila Zhuravlyova, who signed a petition asking for Russian President Vladimir Putin's military invention to stop "political persecution and physical annihilation of the Russian-speaking and Ortho-

dox population."

In Luhansk and other eastern Ukraine cities, some men have formed militia groups such as "Luhansk Guard," the "People's Auxiliary" as Russian news broadcasts swarm with alleged atrocity stories about attacks on ethnic Russians and Jews in Ukraine - helping to spur the secession drive and the anxieties that underlie it. The Associated Press and other international media have found no evidence of victimization.

On Sunday, in a possible portent of more trouble to come, pro-Russian demonstrators overran the regional government headquarters just off Soviet Street and forced Gov. Mikhail Bolotskiy to sign a resignation letter.

"Among them were young aggressive people in an intoxicated condition, inappropriate condition, with bats, sticks, and it was obvious they were armed with some other kinds of weapons," the governor, who is appointed by Ukraine's central authorities, said Tuesday.

Bolotskiy said he put his signature to the letter only to protect the terrified women, children and others who had taken refuge in the building out of fear of pro-Russian mobs. After negotiations that dragged on through the night, the occupiers left, and the governor was able to return to his second-floor office.

Three burly Ukrainian policeman stood guard by the main staircase Tuesday.

Ukraine's easternmost city was founded in the late 18th Century by Catherine the Great as a foundry to make cannon and cannonballs for the Imperial Russian Army. In Soviet times, it was home to one of the country's blue-ribbon factories that turned out steam locomotives good enough to be designated "IS"—for the Russian-language initials of dictator Josef Stalin.

The city, with its five-story Khrushchev-era apartment blocks and tidy downtown with a pair of spire-topped edifices in a bombastic style known as Stalinist Gothic, seems an architectural throwback to a time when coal miners and locomotive factory workers were considered the proletarian elite.

But the breakup of the Soviet Union and harsh economic realities of the market haven't been kind to the east and the Luhansk region, where nearly 70 percent of the population in a 2001 census reported Russian as their mother tongue. Residents say many factories, including the locomotive works, have had to drastically cut both payrolls and production. Fewer smokestacks these days belch the sour-smelling coal smoke that shows people still work there. It all means that many people see Russia as the cure-all to their problems.

Off the Wall

Wax museum selling historical figures

By **MARK SCOLFORO**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTYSBURG, Pa. (AP)—A life-sized animatronic Abe Lincoln is among the historical figures and tableau scenes from a Gettysburg wax museum set to hit the auction block just months after the town celebrated the 150th anniversary of his “Gettysburg Address.”

The American Civil War Wax Museum has occupied a prime spot near the center of the battlefield for more than half a century. But it recently underwent an extensive renovation and wants to take a new approach to history. As part of those changes, it is preparing to unload dozens of its historical figures—most made of vinyl, not wax—in what the auctioneer calls a once-in-a-lifetime sale.

The March 15 auction will also feature diorama contents, tapestries, furniture and books. The items include soldiers, a Southern plantation scene and the Lincoln-Douglas debates’ stop in 1858 at Knox College. Also for sale is an enormous reproduction of Gilbert Stuart’s 1796 portrait of George Washington, which hangs in the National Portrait Gallery.

When the wax museum reopens later this year as the Gettysburg Heritage Center, its focus will have shifted to the experience of town residents before, during and after the July 1863 battle between the Confederates under Gen. Robert E. Lee and the federal troops commanded by Gen. George Gordon Meade.

“The Park Service does a fabulous job of telling the story about the battle,” said Tammy Myers, who runs the facility for Fu-

tureStake Inc. “We don’t all need to be telling the same story.”

The company estimates 9 million people have walked through the wax museum since it opened in 1962, shortly before the centennial of the battle.

While much of what those visitors saw will be auctioned off, the plan is to preserve the scene from Pickett’s Charge depicted inside the theater but

active activities for children, including short videos about 19th-century life in Gettysburg, a thriving transportation hub with three weekly newspapers and gas streetlights.

Among the many businesses that serve the Gettysburg tourism trade, some have been taking a look at their operations these days, now that the 150th anniversary of the battle and Lincoln’s “Gettysburg



AP
In this photo made on Thursday, March 6, 2014, Tammy Myers, who runs the American Civil War Wax Museum for FutureStake Inc., stands beside shelves of heads of characters from the museum in Gettysburg, Pa.

revamp the presentation that accompanies it. Myers said there are also plans to repurpose a few of the life-sized figures for a new exhibit on the Underground Railroad.

The business changed hands about seven months ago and closed down two months ago for the construction project, which gutted most of the building’s interior. The new attraction will have more inter-

Address” has passed, said Carl Whitehill with Destination Gettysburg.

The wax museum has been a mainstay of the central Pennsylvania town’s tourist trek for decades, Whitehill said.

“It’s a place that our visitors have become quite familiar with,” Whitehill said. “It was certainly due for change. It’s quite an anchor there, on one of our busiest streets.”

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Fortune cookie turns Bronx woman into millionaire

NEW YORK (AP)—A 75-year-old New York woman found her fortune in a cookie. Emma Duvoll won \$2 million in a recent Powerball drawing after playing the numbers found in her fortune cookie. The retired Bronx resident bought the lottery ticket after dining at a Chinese restaurant in Greenwich Village. The Daily News reports that the owner of Sammy’s Noodle Shop & Grill joked that maybe the waiters should get 20 percent of her winnings. Duvoll, a retired deli owner, picked up her prize on Thursday. She purchased the ticket for the Feb. 1 drawing at the Hannaford Pharmacy in upstate Pine Bush. She plans to invest her winnings and may splurge on a trip to Switzerland to see relatives.

NY college students charged after dog’s beer photo

BROCKPORT, N.Y. (AP)—Authorities say two students at a New York state college were charged with animal abuse after a dog was held upside down over a keg and forced to drink beer. Police say one of the College at Brockport students held the black Labrador retriever over a keg and apparently forced the animal to drink from the tap during an off-campus party Saturday at a house

in the village, located 17 miles west of Rochester. Another student took a photo and posted it on a Twitter account featuring stories and pictures from parties thrown by students enrolled at state colleges in New York. The two men, both 20, were charged with torturing and injuring an animal. They were issued appearance tickets for town court. The dog was taken by the local dog warden.

Wake up and smell the bacon... with a bacon app

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Want to wake up to the sound of bacon sizzling on the stove with its aroma drawing you out of bed? There’s an app for that. Oscar Mayer says it has created a bacon-scented app for the iPhone, developed by the Madison-based company’s Institute for the Advancement of Bacon. The company says that to emit a small puff reminiscent of bacon, the user needs an external device that plugs into the headphone jack. The app itself produces the sound of bacon sizzling in a pan. Oscar Mayer says the aroma-producing device won’t be sold in stores and that quantities are limited. The company is giving away 4,700 devices beginning Thursday. Oscar Mayer is part of Kraft Foods Group Inc., based in Glenview, Ill.

Science & Technology

On Instagram, rich kids find a following

By **SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Kevin Sacco isn’t a celebrity, but on Instagram he is famous for flaunting his wealth, like the time he took a picture of himself bathing in an outdoor Jacuzzi in his penthouse suite overlooking the French Riviera.

Or when the 20-year-old son of a real estate mogul in Italy spent 10,000 euros, or nearly \$14,000, with friends at La Maison Blanche in Paris for his most recent birthday.

“I’m showing off my parties, my bottles, my clubs, my travels, and people love this,” said Sacco, who is known as @PrinceOfItaly on Instagram. Sacco said his followers’ comments remind him how lucky he is. “When people say, ‘What a fantastic life,’ I say to myself, ‘You have a good life—just enjoy.’”

Sacco is one of several wealthy teens and young adults who have gained large followings on Instagram for spending a lot of their parents’ money—driving million-dollar sports cars, enjoying 24-karat gold bathtubs and having Dom Perignon instead of milk with a bowl of Lucky Charms.

Their exploits spawned a popular Tumblr blog called “Rich Kids of Instagram” that aggre-

gates all their photos. The blog then inspired a TV show on the E! channel, “#RichKids of Beverly Hills,” which airs Sundays, transforming the spoiled rich kids from an online phenomenon to a Hollywood reality show.

Their popularity has grown—the premiere of the TV reality show drew more than 5.5 million viewers—despite harsh criticism from viewers.

“You’re what’s wrong with this world,” one Instagram user commented on a photo of a \$60,000 dinner bill.

Morgan Stewart, who is one of the five featured in “#RichKids of Beverly Hills,” said she posts pictures on Instagram because she’s part of a generation who live a large portion of their social life on social networks.

Stewart, who often takes photos of herself in front of private jets she travels in, said she doesn’t care how many likes or comments her photos get. She posts pictures because she likes the way she looks in them, and the only thing she cares about is that her friends like the pictures.

“It’s not supposed to make sense. It’s just supposed to make you feel good,” said Stewart, who has more than 200,000 In-

stagram followers. “If my eyebrows look good that day, I’m going to show you that they do.”

Karen North, a social media expert at the University of Southern California’s Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, said the Instagram rich kids are no different from other young people who use social media: “What kids do is they share pictures and thoughts in a way that promotes who they want people to think they are.”

“If the image you have and want to promote is that you’re the rich kid and you fly off to the Alps to go skiing for the weekend, you can tell a lot of people about that at school, I suppose, or you can post it on social media and reach a lot more people,” North said.

And while rich kids use it to shape their identity or remind themselves how blessed they are, followers want to vicariously live and engage in activities that are beyond their reach.

“If you went to the Oscars, went skiing in the Alps or had tickets to Wimbledon, then when you post that, the rest of us get to feel a little bit like we got to do that too,” North said. “If we’re following, then we got to share that experience with you.”

TECH Q&A

Smartphones aren’t safe from viruses

By **STEVE ALEXANDER**
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I recently received a smartphone text message containing a link to a website. On my PC, I would immediately delete such spam without opening it. But I thought it could do no damage on my smartphone, and out of curiosity opened the link. The browser flashed different Web addresses that appeared to be reroutes before eventually going to a women’s health site. Afterward, I started getting bounce-back emails from people on my contact list that were either out of the office or had new addresses. The message, apparently sent by me to at least a dozen people, had a link to another website.

Is it possible to get a virus through your smartphone?—Dennis Todd, Red Bluff, Calif.

ANSWER: Yes, and it appears that your phone has gotten one. The attack you describe resembles that of the “NotCompatible” virus, which takes over your phone. It can steal your contact list so it can send the same scam email to your friends. As a general rule, you shouldn’t risk your smartphone by opening a strange website link any more than you would risk your PC.

Depending on what kind of phone you have, download a security program from either Google Play (Android) or the Apple App Store that can remove a virus.

So far, it appears that more of the malicious smartphone software is aimed at phones using Google’s Android operating system than at Apple’s iPhone. This is not surprising considering that there are far more Android phones. Research firm IDC found that Android phones made up 78 percent of worldwide smartphone shipments in the fourth quarter of 2013. Apple made up less than 18 percent.

WINDOWS XP: Here are some follow-up questions about the end of Microsoft’s Windows XP security updates in April, which will leave PCs with XP vulnerable to future hacker attacks.

Q: What’s the worst thing that can happen if I keep using my Windows XP PC after April?—Ken Kaufman, Skaneateles, N.Y.

A: Your computer could be taken over by hackers and become part of a botnet, a group of hacker-directed PCs that can be used to attack websites and send spam email. Someone could steal information from your PC, or remotely lock your PC and charge you to unlock it.

Q: Can I get antivirus or other software to protect my Windows XP computer in place of Microsoft’s updates?—Several readers

A: No. Security updates for Windows XP are only available from Microsoft, which is discontinuing them. Antivirus software updates protect against new viruses, but don’t protect against newly discovered vulnerabilities

in the Windows operating system.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

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SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7

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DIVERGENT [CC,DV] (NR)	Thru, 800 PM
NEED FOR SPEED [CC,DV] (PG-13)	Fri. - Sat. (4:05 PM) 10:05 PM
	Sun. - Thu. (4:05 PM)
NEED FOR SPEED 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13)	Fri. 7:05 PM
	Sat. - Sun. (1:05 PM) 7:05 PM
	Mon. - Thu. 7:05 PM
300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE [CC,DV] (R)	Fri. - Sat. (4:10 PM) 9:40 PM
	Sun. - Thu. (4:10 PM)
300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE 3D [CC,DV] (R)	Fri. 7:10 PM
	Sat. - Sun. (12:00 PM) 7:10 PM
	Mon. - Thu. 7:10 PM
MR. PEABODY AND SHERMAN [CC,DV] (PG)	Fri. 7:20 PM 9:45 PM
	Sat. (2:00 PM) 7:20 PM 9:45 PM
	Sun. (2:00 PM) 7:20 PM
	Mon. - Thu. 7:20 PM
MR. PEABODY AND SHERMAN 3D [CC,DV] (PG)	Fri. - Thu. (4:45 PM)
NON-STOP [CC,DV] (PG-13)	Fri. (4:15 PM) 7:15 PM 9:55 PM
	Sat. (11:45 PM) 7:15 PM
	Sun. (11:45 PM) 7:15 PM
	Mon. - Thu. (4:15 PM) 7:15 PM
SON OF GOD [CC,DV] (PG-13)	Fri. (4:00 PM) 7:00 PM 10:00 PM
	Sat. (1:00 PM) 7:00 PM 10:00 PM
	Sun. (1:00 PM) 4:00 PM 7:00 PM
	Mon. - Thu. (4:00 PM) 7:00 PM
POMPEII [CC,DV] (PG-13)	Fri. (4:35 PM) 10:10 PM
	Sat. (1:30 PM) 10:10 PM
	Sun. (1:30 PM)
	Mon. - Thu. (4:35 PM)
POMPEII 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13)	Fri. 7:25 PM
	Sat. - Sun. (4:35 PM) 7:25 PM
	Mon. - Wed. 7:25 PM
ABOUT LAST NIGHT [CC,DV] (NR)	Fri. (4:30 PM) 7:30 PM 10:15 PM
	Sat. (1:45 PM) 7:30 PM 10:15 PM
	Sun. (1:45 PM) 4:30 PM 7:30 PM
	Mon. - Thu. (4:30 PM) 7:30 PM

Times For 3/14 - 3/20 www.REGmovies.com

Life & Style

'Jeopardy!' champ Chu unseated after 12-day run

NEW YORK (AP)—"Jeopardy!" champ Arthur Chu, who won big money while taking heat for his renegade style, has been defeated.

Chu finished in third place with zero dollars on Wednesday's edition of the syndicated quiz show. He had reigned for 12 days. His total winnings were \$297,200.

"A great run," summed up host Alex Trebek.

Chu was unseated by Diana Peloquin of Ann Arbor, Mich., who led for the day with \$15,700.

Chu had struggled for much of the show when, in Final Jeopardy, he risked, and lost, his entire day's bankroll—\$6,400—on the question: "He was the last male monarch who had not previously been Prince of Wales."

Only Peloquin had the correct response: George VI.

The 30-year-old Chu, a resident of Broadview Heights, Ohio, has described himself on Twitter as "mad genius, comedian, actor and freelance voiceover artist."

He applied a "mad genius" approach to "Jeopardy!" brinkmanship. He ditched the time-honored practice of polishing off each category's questions one by one. Instead, he took a



This image released by Jeopardy Productions, Inc. shows host Alex Trebek with contestant Arthur Chu in front of a total of his winnings at a taping of "Jeopardy," in Culver City, Calif.

hopschotch approach to his category choices, which tended to keep his opponents off-kilter.

He also concluded that the bottom rows of the game board are most likely to contain the hidden Daily Doubles, and he played accordingly.

Chu's strategy fueled indignation from "Jeopardy!" traditional-

ists, who contended that such an aggressive style was somehow unsportsmanlike and exhibited a lack of respect for the game.

Chu "rejected the unwritten rule that the guy or gal with the most facts wins," said "On the Media" host Brooke Gladstone on an episode of the public radio show last month, "and replaced

it with the appalling idea that you can outwit your opponent with the wily application of game theory."

It was a style much different from that of legendary know-it-all Ken Jennings, who a decade ago set a "Jeopardy!" record with 74 consecutive victories while winning \$2.5 million.

Lawyer: Bieber should return to Fla. for questions

MIAMI (AP)—A lawyer wants Justin Bieber to return to South Florida so he can ask more questions about the pop singer's ex-girlfriend, Selena Gomez, as part of a photographer's lawsuit against Bieber and his bodyguard.

Attorney Mark DiCowden says in the motion filed Tuesday that Bieber's attorneys wrongly prevented him from asking about Gomez during a March 6 deposition. DiCowden says the actress and singer was at previous altercations between Bieber

and photographers.

Photographer Jeffrey Binion is seeking unspecified damages from Bieber and bodyguard Hugh Hesney over the June confrontation outside a Miami-area recording studio.

Bieber refused to answer

questions about Gomez in the first deposition and his lawyers criticized the questioning as irrelevant. DiCowden wants a judge to order Bieber to return within 30 days.

Bieber also faces DUI and other charges in Miami.

With help from thousands, 'Veronica Mars' reborn

NEW YORK (AP)—Rob Thomas knew he might make movie history by using Kickstarter to crowd-fund his "Veronica Mars" film. But he wasn't prepared for the posters.

Of all the prizes offered to donors of "Veronica Mars"—everything from a digital copy of the script for \$10 to a walk-on cameo for \$10,000—the most taxing was autographing the cast-signed posters promised to more than 5,000 backers. It took several hand-cramping days and constant shuttling of boxes from one signee to the next.

"We've got our own poster handler who is in charge of getting them to us and getting them signed," Thomas said in a recent interview. "It's required, like, its own department."

But, he adds, "This movie would not exist if we had not gone down this path."

It's been a year since Thomas sent shockwaves through the

movie industry by turning to the crowd-funding site Kickstarter to help finance a movie based on his cultishly adored but short-lived high-school detective series. On Friday, the movie hits theaters and video-on-demand. As the first high-profile celebrity project to drum up money on Kickstarter, "Veronica Mars" is a trailblazer, albeit one with a cloudy legacy.

Thomas has already been followed by projects by Zach Braff (to fund his second directorial effort) and Spike Lee (to raise cash for his latest "joint"). The land rush into a new avenue of funding (a major struggle for most filmmakers) has raised questions about the ethics of fan-based financing. (Contributors pay for different levels of rewards, but don't share in profits.)

"Veronica Mars" may have introduced a democratic spirit to a green-lighting process



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Kristen Bell on the set of "Veronica Mars."

usually controlled by film executives, but it has also opened a Pandora's box where, critics say, established insiders can take advantage of their loyal followings.

"It's a brilliant idea that's

gotten out of hand," "House of Cards" producer Dana Brunetti recently said at a SXSW panel discussion. "It's wrong when people like Zach Braff or Spike Lee use that same service to fund their films when they already have access. I think it overshadows and takes away from the little guys who actually need the funding."

Thomas says he'd rather not be considered a poster boy for Kickstarter. "Every project has its own separate concerns," he says. Instead, he believes the choice is up to consumers.

"If it bothers you that Zach Braff probably has a lot of money from 'Scrubs,'" says Thomas, "then don't give to it."

Before "Veronica Mars" found 91,585 backers who pledged about \$5.7 million (far surpassing the \$2 million Thomas sought), it was essentially doomed. The Warner Bros. Television-produced series was canceled in 2007 after three seasons on UPN and CW.

Kids' game of 'truth or dare' causes strife among adults

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My sister has children younger than mine, but the kids all play together frequently. She recently caught them involved in a game of "truth or dare" and a couple of the kids had no clothes on.

While I was surprised to hear it and have spoken to my children about it, it seems to me to be one of those games that kids play. My sister insists it's about dominance and sex and refuses to let my kids play with hers any longer.

I'm heartbroken over her reaction and don't know how to respond. We barely speak anymore. What do you think?

JUST A GAME? IN IOWA

DEAR JUST A GAME: Whether what happened was because of natural curiosity or about "dominance" would depend on the ages of the children involved. Not allowing the children to play together again seems like an overreaction, but a serious discussion about boundaries should certainly have taken place after the incident.

DEAR ABBY: I started dating my childhood sweetheart when we were in high school. I'm now in college.

My dreams and goals have always been to move from our small town to a big city in another state. The problem is my boyfriend, "Clay," never wants to leave here. He isn't even interested in travel, which is something I would love to do.

I have stayed in our hometown for him. Everyone in my family thinks he's holding me back and isn't being fair. He may not be perfect, but he does make me happy.

I now have an opportunity to move, but Clay refuses to go. Should I go anyway, regardless of what it does to our relationship? Do I take the risk of being happy in a new city by myself, or stay where I know what the ending will be?

STUCK IN SMALLTOWN, U.S.A.

DEAR STUCK: All of life is a risk. Please listen to your family. I think you know in your heart that you need to experience a little independence. If you don't take advantage of the opportunity you have been given, you will indeed be "Stuck in Smalltown, U.S.A." Forever.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married for 10 years. She is a Realtor and I'm a maintenance worker. I work eight hours a day, five days a week and sometimes on weekends and overtime when needed.

My wife thinks that when I'm off on weekends I should be working around the house. I have tried telling her that those are my days off to do what I prefer or just relax. I do maintenance work all week, and then she expects me to do it on weekends, too? I don't mind it occasionally, but with her it's every weekend. I feel like getting a divorce because of her never-ending demands.

I also play in a band with my friends on Sunday evenings. It's only once a week, but she gives me flak about that, too. I'm at work 40 hours a week and with her every evening except Sunday. I don't fish, play golf, hang out at bars, chase women or have any other hobbies. How can I get her to understand?

WANTS TO RELAX

DEAR WANTS: Have you told your wife you feel like divorcing her because of her never-ending demands? It might be a way to get her attention.

Tell her that you're willing to fix things around the house one or two days a month, but if her punch list requires more than that, she should hire someone.

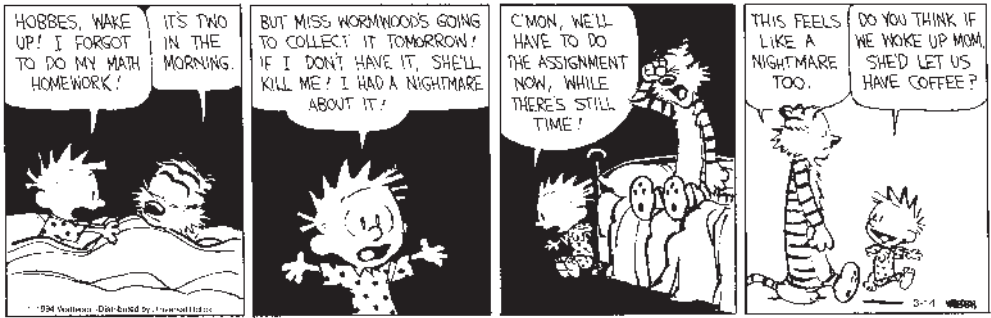
And as to your playing in the band—invite her to come and listen if she wants, but make it plain that you don't intend to stop.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

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By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 NHL Hall of Famer
4 "Erie Canal" mule
7 Impetuous
12 In the manner of
13 La-la lead-in
14 Two under par
15 Fond du —, WI
16 Amuse
18 "— Believer"
19 Paris subway
20 Chicks and ducks
22 Vast expanse
23 Ache
27 Surprise cries
29 Hit
31 Grammarian's concern
34 Lubricated
35 Sandwich meat
37 "Oh yeah? — who?"

DOWN

38 Prayer ending
39 Fish eggs
41 Right on the map?
45 Wimbledon area
47 Falsehood
48 Woodworker
52 Superman foe
53 Heavenly hunter
54 Indivisible
55 Sister of Zsa Zsa
56 Bathroom fixture
57 Poehler pal
58 "Of course"

Solution time: 25 mins.

H	E	S	J	A	V	A	J	I	M	I
O	V	A	A	G	A	R	E	P	I	C
V	A	G	A	B	O	N	D	Z	O	N
A	R	B	S	O	M	E	D	A	Y	
S	U	M	M	E	R	R	U	B		
O	N	O	R	E	D	D	E	P	O	T
B	I	R	D	F	O	G	L	A	M	A
S	T	E	E	P	W	A	D	G	E	M
S	Q	U	A	R	E	D	P	I	N	
A	U	N	T	M	A	G	A	Z	I	N
R	I	D	E	A	V	E	R	N	I	L
A	D	O	S	P	E	L	T	I	N	K

Yesterday's answer 3-14

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Megan Follows, 46; Billy Crystal, 66; Quincy Jones, 81; Michael Caine, 81.

Happy Birthday: Persuasion, ingenuity and a little brute force will help you get your way this year, as long as your plan or goal doesn't have flaws. Calculate each move with precision and rely on formulas you have used successfully in the past to wheel, deal and make your presence felt. There is no time to waste or to gamble. Your numbers are 3, 12, 20, 24, 33, 36, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Reach back into your friendship bag and pull out someone from your past who you miss or feel you have more in common with now. Times are changing, and so are you. Express your thoughts and form alliances. Attend a reunion. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get your facts straight before you share your thoughts and concerns. A unique offering will help you bridge a gap that has been forming between you and someone you want on your team. Don't let personal matters interfere with business. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't skip a beat. Say what's on your mind. Advancement is likely if you reach out to someone influential you have worked with in the past. Don't let an emotional situation cloud your vision or stand between you and your professional goals. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be cognizant of the changes others make, but don't feel it's necessary for you to follow

suit. Someone you think has an interest in you may have ulterior motives. Don't reveal anything that might jeopardize your reputation. You'll be drawn to unusual lifestyles. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use finesse when you express your thoughts, ideas and intentions. Stand out and make your point clear. Your bravado will lead to options you hadn't considered in the past. Greater earning potential will be yours if you offer a unique service. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Emotional disillusionment is likely to leave you confused. Don't take anyone or anything for granted and don't let anyone take advantage of you or what you have to offer. Focus on socializing or fun activities with good friends or youngsters. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen, but don't feel the need to be a follower. You are much better off drawing your own conclusions and doing things that make you feel good about the way you look and who you are. Romance should be on your agenda. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep your plans a secret and you'll avoid interference. Get out and interact with people who share your thoughts and interests. A networking function or trade show will help you decipher your next move. Don't give in to emotional blackmail. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stay on top of what's going on around you. Don't believe everything you hear. Focus on your personal goals and being the best you can be. Improvements you make at home

EUGENIA LAST



will help raise your standard of living. Put comfort first. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Re-think the way you live and your personal goals. Incorporate your own unique style into what and how you do things and you will attract attention. A personal connection will need nurturing if you want to keep it alive. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep the momentum flowing. Wheel and deal and put extra effort into your personal budgeting and investments. Set up a good health routine that will improve the way you look and feel. Love is on the rise. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Focus on ways to help others and you will receive plenty in return. The people you associate with will help you develop and express an idea you want to put into play. Invest in your future by investing in yourself. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are dynamic, possessive and aggressive. You are persuasive and unpredictable.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	4			9			8			
						1				
9		8					6		5	
	6		8		5					
1									6	
			7		3			9		
7		6					2		9	
			3							
8				4				1		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 3/14
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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	3	5	2	4	8	1	7	6
2	4	6	9	7	1	5	3	8
7	1	8	5	3	6	4	2	9
3	2	9	8	5	4	6	1	7
8	5	7	1	6	2	3	9	4
1	6	4	3	9	7	8	5	2
5	7	1	4	8	9	2	6	3
6	8	3	7	2	5	9	4	1
4	9	2	6	1	3	7	8	5

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JOHN NEWMAN, SINGER Solution: 11 letters

S	L	A	C	O	U	S	T	I	C	S	Y	A	L	P
O	N	B	R	E	A	K	B	E	A	T	S	O	U	L
L	D	O	S	T	R	A	H	C	R	R	V	R	E	A
E	O	E	I	H	I	T	S	I	U	E	U	E	V	T
E	O	N	B	T	P	S	B	O	R	D	D	F	S	I
F	H	O	D	U	O	U	T	E	I	S	I	U	G	N
D	D	T	Y	O	T	M	T	M	C	L	D	U	N	U
E	L	H	O	E	N	I	E	R	M	D	I	E	I	M
E	I	I	U	E	R	N	I	U	L	T	I	E	T	R
N	H	N	W	T	P	S	O	A	K	N	L	A	E	
G	C	G	A	T	I	G	R	C	O	M	T	E	M	
L	M	N	L	S	C	I	E	A	Y	U	S	T	H	I
I	O	A	I	I	G	G	J	A	M	E	S	E	C	X
S	A	N	A	S	V	I	D	E	O	S	Y	S	A	E
H	G	N	O	T	G	I	V	I	N	G	I	N	I	N

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 14-003 Opening Date: Friday, February 28, 2014
Closing Date: Friday, March 14, 2014

Accounting Assistant (Tinian)

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Accounting Specialist or his/her designee. Performs a wide variety of routine fiscal support activities to include: receiving and processing payments; issuing receipts; preparing daily deposit slips; opening new accounts; closing credit cards; verifying and processing payroll; running automatic credit card payments; posting invoices; preparing checks; preparing refunds; and, preparing charge vouchers. Generates and distributes routine reports. Maintains filing systems. Performs customer service activities to include assisting customers with applications, payments and in settling disputes. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION(S): Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$12,584.00 per annum - \$14,000.00 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.
POSITION(S): Two (2).

Minimum Requirements: High School diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) or Adult School (AS) diploma through the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program. Knowledge of: Basic bookkeeping principles; Office procedures, methods, and equipment; Keyboarding techniques; Basic mathematical concepts; Customer service principles; Cash handling and bank deposit procedures. Skill in: Providing customer service; Performing basic mathematical calculations; Maintaining records; Keyboarding; Using standard office equipment; Tabulating, recording, and balancing transactions; Preparing routine reports; Using a computer and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisors, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School is requesting applicants for:

Accountant/Business Manager (1)

- Minimum 5 years experience in Seventh-day Adventist School;
- Minimum 5 years experience in managerial capacity;
- Bachelor's degree in accounting;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Knowledge in Quickbook's accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school

Elementary Teacher (1)

- Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education required;
- NAD denominational degree preferred;
- Must be qualified to teach elementary English;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

Pre-School Teachers (2)

- Bachelor's degree required;
- Two years of early childhood teaching experience required;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

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BASKETBALL TEAMS' NAMES: WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Restaurant General Manager (1)

Classification: Full-Time, Exempt, 50 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Area General Manager (AGM)

Summary of Responsibilities
Prioritize, directs and coordinates the activities of the restaurant to continually strengthen its Brand position and maximize its sales and profitability.

Essential Accountabilities

- People:
 - Achieves management staffing and development goals to plan
 - Has active succession plan in place for all positions
 - Improves employee morale through monitoring and showing urgency in caring for employees.
 - Improves staff performance through frequent personal and team coaching
 - Reduces incidences and claims by making safety everyone's top priority
 - Ensures compliance with all applicable laws
- Financials:
 - Achieves sales and profit targets to plan
 - Corrects daily financial deficiencies with urgency.
 - Drives year-over-year growth in sales and profit
- Operations:
 - Delivers/improves delivery of QSC to franchise operational standards
 - Raises the bar in operational execution
- Assets:
 - Corrects all asset deficiencies with urgency
 - Eliminates any potential for liability with urgency
- Availability
 - Open availability.
 - Minimum 5 day, 50 hour work week.
 - Vehicle required.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Required Skills

- Analytical: Able to analyze reports and correct deficient areas efficiently.
- Problem Solving: Able to implement TOSIDPAR problem solving techniques to achieve desired results.
- Organization & Planning: Able to organize priorities and develop/execute plans achieving desired results.
- Coaching: Able to develop the skills of subordinates to perform at a higher level
- Team Building: Able to stabilize staffing and build team bench.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Crew Member (2)

Classification: Full-Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Manager In Charge (MIC)

Summary of Responsibilities
Performs a variety of duties that may include the duties of a Telephone Person, Cashier, Register Person, Dough Person, Cut & Pack Cook, Make-table Pizza Preparer, Receiving & Stocking and Lot Person.

TELEPHONE PERSON
Essential Functions

- Answer telephone quickly within Pizza Hut guidelines.
- Clearly communicate to customers all specials and promotions.
- Accurately record customer orders on to POS system.
- Communicate to make table personnel any special requests.
- Keep counter and work area clean and organized at all times.

CASHIER
Essential Functions

- Ensures an accurate accounting of all transactions, collections and disbursements during work shift.
- Receives cash drawer at beginning of work shift and verifies the accuracy by counting money in cash drawer.
- Obtains and reviews information regarding price changes or menu specials.
- Greet guests as they enter the dining area or carryout area.
- May take guests' food and beverage orders and give orders to kitchen staff.
- Itemizes and totals guests' food and beverage purchases or may collect food and beverage checks from guests and ring them to the register.
- Collects cash, checks, or charge payments from guests. Makes change for cash transactions, verifies identification for checks and prepares charge voucher for credit card purchases.
- Counts money, checks, and charge payments in cash drawer at end of shift.
- May reconcile checks, cash receipts and charge sales with total sales to verify accuracy of transactions.
- Stocks counters, display refrigerators, salad bar, and steam table neatly, accurately and in a timely fashion as per menu.
- Checks to ensure that all display foods are presented attractively as per standards.
- Displays food under appropriate hot or cold conditions as per standards.
- Keeps display equipment clean and free of debris during meal service, as assigned.
- Cleans workstation thoroughly before leaving area assignment.
- Relays relevant comments received from customers directly to supervisor.

REGISTER PERSON
Essential Functions

- Responsible for providing quick and efficient service to customers.
- Greets customers and takes their food and beverage orders.
- Accurately records customer's orders on to POS system and computes the amount of the bill.
- Serves drinks from dispensing machines or makes and serves hot drinks from water heater or coffee maker.
- Picks up food items from serving bar or storage area.
- Places items on tray or in take-out containers.
- Checks orders to ensure that guest is receiving a complete and correct order.
- Informs kitchen staff of shortages or special requests.
- Collects payment from guest and makes change.
- Helps with preparation of food in kitchen.
- Helps with getting back up food on line
- Washes dishes.
- Informs manager of stock levels.
- Restocks drink station/supplies, paper.
- Checks supplies in counter area - napkins, crushed peppers and cheese, and restocks items to ensure a sufficient supply throughout shift.
- Wipes off front counter with cleaning solution and clean cloth. Keeps counter and floor clean at all times.
- Cleans and restocks dining room.
- Takes trash out to dumpster.
- Performs long-term maintenance on sidewalks, walls, and equipment.
- Sweeps and keeps exterior lot clean at all times throughout the shift.

DOUGH PERSON
Essential Functions

- Responsible for dough preparedness as prescribed from Manager In Charge
- Complies with all portioning, quality standards, rules, policies, and safety procedures.
- Selects and transports raw items to work area and back. Stores finished products in proper places.
- Selects proper equipment and utensils to prepare items as procedures require - dough mixer, whips, pitcher, proofer, bun-o-matic, retarder and dough roller.

CUT & PACK COOK
Essential Functions

- Checks workstations for presence of small equipment, assembly materials, paper goods and condiments.
- Responsible for product assembly, checks appearance and calls out preparation times for all orders.
- Monitors oven setting according to Pizza Hut standards.
- Checks all finished products to ensure compliance with Pizza Hut standards.
- Communicates with make-table personnel, front line personnel and MIC for quality controls and feedback.

MAKE-TABLE PIZZA PREPARER
Essential Functions

- Responsible and required to prepare and assemble all products according to customer's order and according to Pizza Hut portioning specifications.
- Sets up the make-table by checking the worktable, counter, dough cabinets, and line refrigeration to ensure they are properly stocked prior to the meal production period.
- Checks all workstations (make-table, pasta) for presence of appropriate small equipment, assembly materials, and stock levels.
- Monitors all food production areas for safety and sanitation practices and procedures. Checks for cleanliness and orderliness and provides direction/takes action as necessary.
- Sets up production cycles, ensure proper inventory levels are available, and calls to back up or replenish items as necessary.

EMPLOYER'S RIGHTS: This job description does not list all the duties of the job. You may be asked by your supervisors or managers to perform other duties. You will be evaluated in part based upon your performance of the tasks listed in this job description. The employer has the right to revise this job description at any time. The job description is not a contract for employment, and either you or the employer may terminate employment at any time, for any reason.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Delivery Driver (1)

Classification: Full Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Part Time, Non-Exempt, less than 32 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Manager In Charge (MIC) / Dispatcher

Summary of Responsibilities
Delivers customer's order in a timely and safe manner within accordance of Pizza Hut guidelines and compliance with State and Federal traffic laws.

Essential Functions

- Drives competently and complies with all traffic laws.
- Delivers products in a timely manner with accuracy and courteousness.
- Collects checks, cash or credit card slips to properly tender order.
- Performs secondary duties such as washing dishes, cleaning, prep and cooking duties.
- Keeps car and work area clean and organized throughout shift.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma preferred.

Abilities, Knowledge, and Skills
Must be at least 18 years of age. Must possess a valid CNMI driver's license with a minimum of 2 years driving experience. Must have an acceptable driving record. Must provide own insured vehicle for deliveries. Able to read and follow road maps. Must be able to speak, read, write and understand English. Must be able to communicate clearly, courteously and efficiently with customers.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Position requires well-paced mobility for a minimum of four hours. Requires driving, standing and walking for most of the workday. Must be able to lift 25 lbs. occasionally.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Abilities, Knowledge, and Skills
Able to understand and implement written and verbal instructions. Communicates clearly, courteously and efficiently with customers in English. Must possess basic math skills.

Required Experience
Food service and food production experience preferred. Cash handling experience preferred.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Position requires well-paced mobility for minimum periods minimum of four hours. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday. Must be able to bend and stoop occasionally. Must be able to occasionally lift 25 lbs.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

All interested applicants may get application at Pizza Hut Restaurant in Gualo Rai • Closing Date: March 17, 2014

Nets get Heat again, win, 96-95



MIAMI (AP)—Paul Pierce scored 17 of his 29 points in the third quarter and Mirza Teletovic scored 17 off the bench as the Brooklyn Nets beat Miami for the third time in as many games this season, topping the Heat 96-95 Wednesday.

Shaun Livingston scored 13 points, Andray Blatche added 11 and Deron Williams had eight assists for the Nets, who've won seven of their past eight games and are 23-9 since Jan. 1.

Chris Bosh scored 24 points for Miami, giving him 15,003 for his career. Dwyane Wade scored 22, LeBron James finished with 19 and Mario Chalmers scored 14 for the Heat.

Kings 115, 76ers 98

In Philadelphia, Rudy Gay scored 27 points and Isaiah Thomas added 20 as Sacramento extended Philadelphia's losing streak to 18 games.

DeMarcus Cousins had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and Ben McLemore scored 15 points for the Kings, who snapped a three-game skid. Jason Thompson added 14.

The Kings are in the midst of a seven-game, 12-day road trip, their longest of the season. They are 2-3 on the trip.

Henry Sims posted career-highs of 20 points and 10 rebounds, James Anderson added 17 points and Thaddeus Young had 16 for Philadelphia, which fell to 15-49 in dropping its 14th in a row at home, an ongoing franchise record. Michael Carter-Williams had 13 points, seven rebounds and two assists two nights after earning his second career triple-double.

Spurs 103, Trail Blazers 90

In San Antonio, Patty Mills scored 15 points, and Tim Duncan had 10 points and 11 rebounds in limited minutes as San Antonio rolled to its eighth straight win.

Damian Lillard had 23 points for Portland, which lost LaMarcus Aldridge to a bruised back early in the second half.

Danny Green added 14 points for San Antonio, Manu Ginobili scored 13, Kawhi Leonard had 12, and Tiago Splitter had 12 points and 10 rebounds.

San Antonio's bench outscored Portland's 46-23, enabling coach Gregg Popovich to limit Duncan, Parker, Ginobili, Splitter and Green to less than 30 minutes.

Portland opened the third on an 8-0 run after trailing by as many as 17 in the first half, but lost Aldridge 43 seconds into the quarter.

Knicks 116, Celtics 92

In Boston, Carmelo Anthony scored 19 of his 34 points in the first half as New York opened a 24-point lead and coasted past Boston for its fifth straight win.

Tim Hardaway Jr. added 22 points, J.R. Smith 13 and Cole Aldrich had 12 with 10 rebounds in his first career start for the Knicks, who are making a charge for the Eastern Conference's eighth and final playoff spot.

The victory moved the Knicks into ninth place, a half-game ahead of Detroit, which lost in Toronto on Wednesday. They are three games behind eighth-place Atlanta.

Jeff Green led Boston with 27 points. Kris Humphries and Jerryd Bayless each had 15 for the Celtics, who have lost nine of 12.

Cavaliers 110, Suns 101

In Phoenix, Kyrie Irving scored 12 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter as Cleveland spoiled Eric Bledsoe's return for Phoenix.

Spencer Hawes added 19, 17 in the first quarter, and Luol Deng scored 18 as the Cavs snapped a four-game losing streak.

Bledsoe, who had knee surgery and missed 33 games, had 15 points on 5-for-16 shooting and a team-high nine assists.

Goran Dragic scored 20 points, Markieff Morris 18 and Channing Frye 17 in the Suns' third straight loss.

Irving also had nine rebounds and six assists for the Cavs, who never trailed, building a 14-point first-quarter lead. The Suns twice cut it to two in the third quarter.

Raptors 101, Pistons 87

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 25 points and Amir Johnson had 20 against his former team as Toronto handed Detroit its 10th straight road defeat.

Kyle Lowry added 19 points and Jonas Valanciunas had 13 rebounds for the Atlantic Division-leading Raptors, who won for the fourth time in five meetings with Detroit. Toronto has won 15 of 19 at home after losing eight of its first 12 home games this season.

Toronto won for the 10th time in 13 games and improved to 30-7 when holding its opponent below 100 points.

Brandon Jennings scored 24 points for the Pistons, who have not won away from home since beating Washington on Jan. 18. It's Detroit's longest road skid since losing 11 in a row from Feb. 23 to April 5, 2011.

Grizzlies 90, Pelicans 88

In New Orleans, Mike Conley hit a driving layup against Austin Rivers with 1.5 seconds remaining to complete Memphis' comeback victory over New Orleans.

Conley's basket closed out a 9-0 Grizzlies run to end the game. Memphis trailed 88-81 with 3:22 remaining, but the undermanned Pelicans, playing without guards Tyreke Evans and Eric Gordon, were held scoreless from that point.

Conley scored 16 points to

Brooklyn Nets forward Paul Pierce (34) goes up for a shot against Miami Heat center Chris Bosh (1) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 12, 2014, in Miami.

AP



Kobe Bryant won't be coming back this season

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—Immediately after the Los Angeles Lakers declared Kobe Bryant out for the season, he already was thinking about how to make sure the Lakers will be much less miserable when he returns.

Bryant expressed only mild frustration Wednesday after the long-expected decision to end his 18th NBA season after just six games. The superstar guard's broken bone in his left knee has kept him out since shortly before Christmas, and it still hasn't healed enough for weight-bearing exercise.

With just five weeks left in their injury-ravaged season, the Lakers (22-42) elected to preserve Bryant for next year, when he'll be 36. And though Bryant has barely played, he is determined to make sure the Lakers' failures of this season aren't repeated in 2014-15.

The Lakers' ruthlessly competitive scorer can't take much more of this incompetence from his 16-time NBA champion franchise.

"I feel like killing everybody every time I go to the arena," Bryant said. "I'm just on edge all the time. Yeah, I still feel it, probably more than anybody in the organization does. I probably feel it more, and it drives me absolutely crazy."

Bryant clearly identified the Lakers' top offseason priorities in his mind, and they didn't include specific free-agent additions. The fourth-leading

scorer in NBA history called on the Lakers' front office—and owner Jim Buss in particular—to set "a clear direction" for the franchise's return to the top after they miss the playoffs this spring for just the second time in his career.

"You've got to start with Jim," Bryant said. "You've got to start with Jim and Jeanie (Buss), and how that relationship plays out. It starts there, and having clear direction and clear authority. And then it goes down to the coaching staff, and what's Mike (D'Antoni) going to do, what they want to do with Mike, and then it goes from there. It's got to start at the top."

Phil Jackson's apparent decision to take a front-office job with the New York Knicks also drew a negative reaction from Bryant. The Lakers flirted with re-hiring the 11-time NBA champion coach early last season before unexpectedly choosing D'Antoni, whose two injury-plagued teams have gone 62-74.

"You know how I feel about Phil," Bryant said. "I have so much admiration for him, and respect, and have a great relationship with him. Personally, it would be hard for me to understand that happening twice. It would be tough. I don't really get it."

Bryant said nothing about his relationship with D'Antoni, and the coach said he hadn't spoken to Bryant about the de-

cision to shut him down.

But Bryant said he won't be satisfied with another rebuilding year for the Lakers, even though his two-year, \$48 million contract extension starting next season will absorb a large chunk of the team's upcoming salary-cap space. Most of Los Angeles' roster will be free agents in the summer, and Bryant has said he wants center Pau Gasol to return.

"How can I be satisfied with it?" Bryant asked. "We're like 100 games under .500. I can't be satisfied with that at all. This is not what we stand for. This is not what we play for. A lot of times, it's hard to understand that message if you're not a die-hard Laker fan. It's hard to really understand where we're coming from, what we're used to, what we're accustomed to, which is playing for championships. Everything else is a complete failure. That's just how it is."

Exactly 11 months after tearing his Achilles, Bryant remained confident he can return in something close to top form. He plans to approach his remaining rehabilitation as "a seven-month training program," giving him ample time to rebuild strength in his left leg.

"I don't want to say I'll be back at the top of my game," Bryant said. "Because everybody is going to think I'm crazy, and it's the old-player-not-letting-go sort of thing. But that's what it's going to be."

lead the Grizzlies, who won their fourth straight game. Marc Gasol added 15 points, and Zach Randolph and Tony Allen 13 each for Memphis.

Anthony Davis scored 29 points, including 22 in the first half, for the Pelicans, who had won their past three games. Rivers added 14, Brian Roberts 12 and Anthony Morrow 10.

Davis, who turned 21 Tuesday, also had 10 rebounds and four blocked shots.

Mavericks 108, Jazz 101

In Salt Lake City, Dirk Nowitzki scored 31 points and moved into sole possession of the No. 12 spot on the NBA's career scoring list in Dallas' win over Utah.

The big German made 12 of 14 from the field and all four his 3-point attempts to help the Mavs snap a three-game road skid.

Trey Burke scored 20 points and Enes Kanter had 18 points and 11 rebounds, but the Jazz wilted down the stretch against Dallas' long-range shooting. The Mavericks converted 13 of 21 3-point attempts while the Jazz went 5 of 26.

On the first possession of the game, Nowitzki rained his trademark one-legged fade-away jumper, which moved him past John Havlicek for 12th place on the NBA's all-time scoring list.

Bobcats 98, Wizards 85

In Washington, Al Jefferson had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Gerald Henderson went 6 for 9 in his return from a calf injury to lead Charlotte over Washington.

Henderson finished with 13 points, and Kemba Walker's 16 points included four consecutive free throws during a late fourth-quarter run for the Bobcats, who have won four of five and sit in seventh place in the Eastern Conference.

John Wall scored 23 points to lead the Wizards, but he went scoreless in the fourth and received little help from his teammates. Washington had won eight of its previous 10 and began the day in fifth, one-half game ahead of the Brooklyn Nets.

Nuggets 120, Magic 112

In Orlando, Florida, Kenneth Faried scored 26 points and Wilson Chandler added 21 points and 10 rebounds to rally Denver past Orlando.

JJ Hickson had 20 points and nine rebounds, and Ty Lawson added 17 points and 12 assists for the Nuggets, who ended a two-game losing streak.

Arron Afflalo led Orlando with 24 points. Nikola Vucevic added 20, but had only four points in the second half. Jameer Nelson scored 19 points and had nine assists in Orlando's fifth loss in six games.

After trailing by as many as 13 points in the first half, Denver took an 85-74 lead into the fourth quarter. A fast-break layup by JJ Hickson gave the Nuggets a 105-92 lead with 4:49 to play.

The Magic trimmed the deficit to five on two occasions, but got no closer.

Broncos get Ware; Bucs cut Revis; Decker to Jets

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER



Pass rusher DeMarcus Ware got a \$30 million, three-year contract from the Denver Broncos on Wednesday, less than 24 hours after being released by the Dallas Cowboys.

Not quite keeping pace with the nonstop nature of Day 1 of free agency, Day 2 did include the Buccaneers releasing cornerback Darrelle Revis after failing to trade him; wide receiver Eric Decker bolting Denver to sign with the New York Jets; receiver Golden Tate leaving the Super Bowl champion Seahawks to play alongside All-Pro Calvin Johnson with the Lions; and the Browns cutting two quarterbacks, Brandon Weeden and Jason Campbell.

The Revis move saved the Bucs a \$1.5 million bonus that would have been due if he remained on the roster with his \$16 million salary. It also freed up room under the cap for a continuing roster overhaul under new coach Lovie Smith and general manager Jason Licht.

With Broncos executive John Elway showing the same ability to close a deal that he did during his Hall of Fame career as a quarterback—and used two years ago to lure Peyton Manning to Denver—Ware's first team visit resulted in a deal that includes \$20 million in guaranteed money.

"It's a perfect fit for me," Ware said at a news conference.

He'll pair with linebacker Von Miller to give AFC champion Denver a pair of quarterback chasers. Elway has been busy upgrading the defense during the first two days of the NFL's free-agency period, adding cornerback Aqib Talib from the Patriots and safety T.J. Ward on Tuesday.

"Their mentality is a 'now' mentality," Ware said about the Broncos. "Not looking forward to next season or the season after that. The time is now."

The 31-year-old Ware had 117 sacks and went to seven Pro Bowls in nine seasons with the Cowboys. He had a career-low six sacks last season, when he missed time with a thigh injury, then had off-season elbow surgery.

The Cowboys made another move to clear cap space Wednesday, jettisoning receiver Miles Austin, as expected, saving about \$5.5 million. Austin's release is effective June 1. And they signed free agent defensive linemen Terrell McClain and Jeremy Mincey.

Revis, meanwhile, spent only one season with the Bucs, who got him from the Jets for a 2013 first-round draft pick and a 2014 fourth-round choice.

If Revis had still been on Tampa Bay's roster by 4 p.m. ET on Wednesday, the Bucs would have needed to upgrade that 2014 draft pick to a third-rounder. The Bucs already

signed a topflight cornerback, former Titans player Alterraun Verner, on Tuesday, when they also brought aboard defensive end Michael Johnson, defensive tackle Clinton McDonald and tight end Brandon Myers.

Decker spent all day Wednesday at the Jets' facility and had dinner with a contingent of team officials, including coach Rex Ryan. He gives quarterback Geno Smith and the offense a sorely needed playmaker and No. 1-type wide receiver.

The 6-foot-3, 214-pound Decker, who'll be 27 on Saturday, set career highs last season catching passes from Peyton Manning with 87 catches and 1,288 yards receiving to go along with 11 touchdowns. He had 85 receptions for 1,064 yards and a career-best 13 TDs in 2012.

Tampa Bay added a quarterback Wednesday by agreeing to a two-year contract with Josh McCown, a backup who got a chance to start five games last season for the Bears in place of an injured Jay Cutler.

A player expecting to be on the move soon was Carolina receiver Steve Smith, whose agent, Derrick Fox, told The Associated Press the five-time Pro Bowl pick "is not going to play for the Panthers next year." Fox said he expected Smith to get cut, although Carolina was trying to trade him.

In other news Wednesday:

■ Yet another pass rusher became available when defen-

sive end Chris Clemons was released by the Seahawks. Clemons was due to make \$7.5 million in base salary next season. He is the fourth member of Seattle's defense to be released or sign with another club as a free agent. Tate departs from the offense, getting a five-year deal worth \$31 million with \$13.25 million guaranteed, according to a person familiar with the negotiations. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the deal had not been announced.

■ Seattle did add a player finally, agreeing with former Jaguars receiver Taylor Price on a one-year deal. But it also lost guard Breno Giacomini to the Jets. New York also re-signed backup defensive lineman Leger Douzable to a one-year deal.

■ Offensive lineman Rodger Saffold failed his physical and won't sign a contract with Oakland. The Raiders agreed to a five-year, \$42.5 million deal with \$21.5 million in guarantees with Saffold shortly after the start of free agency on Tuesday. But the team said Wednesday night that Saffold did not pass his physical.

■ Cornerback Corey Graham's agent said on Twitter the player agreed to a four-year contract with the Bills, leaving the Ravens.

■ Returner-receiver Jacoby Jones agreed to a four-year contract to stay with the Ravens.

■ Linebacker Jon Beason agreed to stay with the Giants,

Darrelle Revis agrees with Patriots

Cornerback Darrelle Revis and the New England Patriots have reached agreement on a one-year, \$12 million deal, according to league sources.

Revis still needs to pass his physical and sign his contract. Once he does, it will continue Revis' reign as the NFL's highest paid cornerback and gives the Patriots the player they needed to replace cornerback Aqib Talib, who unexpectedly bolted for the Denver Broncos late Tuesday night.

Once Tampa Bay released Revis, New England immediately stepped up its pursuit.

The two sides quickly were able to come together to reach the one-year agreement that once again will give the cornerback the chance to hit the free-agent market after the 2014

season and become one of the biggest stories of next March.

The Buccaneers parted ways with Revis earlier Wednesday, releasing the five-time Pro Bowl cornerback after being unable to trade him and his \$16 million salary. The move saved the Bucs a \$1.5 million bonus that Revis would have been due if he remained on the roster.

Revis was obtained in a pre-draft trade from the New York Jets last spring, a deal that cost the Bucs a first-round pick in 2013 and a fourth-rounder this year. If Revis had remained on Tampa Bay's roster at 4 p.m. ET Wednesday, he would have been due the bonus, and the 2014 pick the Bucs sent to the Jets would have become a third-rounder. (ESPN)

who also re-signed kicker Josh Brown and safety Stevie Brown.

■ Cornerback Eric Wright re-signed with the 49ers.

■ Offensive lineman David Stewart was waived by the Titans after failing a physical. Tennessee also signed former Steelers defensive lineman Al Woods to a multiyear deal.

■ Saints running back Pierre Thomas agreed to a two-year contract extension.

■ Miami defensive tackle Randy Starks signed a \$12 million, two-year contract.

■ Tight end David Johnson joined the Chargers from Pittsburgh, which re-signed safety

Will Allen, long snapper Greg Warren and offensive lineman Cody Wallace.

■ Former Seahawks safety Chris Maragos and former Texans linebacker Bryan Braman joined the Eagles.

■ Linebacker Dekoda Watson went to the Jaguars from the Bucs.

■ Former Rams guard Chris Williams went to the Bills—then joked he was prepared to go anywhere to get a chance to play.

"I'd go to Antarctica," Williams said. "But Buffalo's a lot better than Antarctica, so I'm just excited to be here."

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SAIPAN 234-RENT



Pistorius trial: Bullet-holed toilet door in court

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP)—A South African police officer swung a cricket bat at Oscar Pistorius’ bullet-marked bathroom door during his murder trial on Wednesday, using two key pieces of evidence to re-enact the night he killed his girlfriend.

Police Col. J.G. Vermeulen faced tough questioning from Pistorius’ defense lawyer, who tried to discredit the police investigation of the shooting and alleged that Vermeulen, a forensic expert, made glaring missteps in his analysis.

Pistorius’ lawyers secured bail for him last year after contending that police contaminated or tampered with evidence from the home where he fatally shot Reevea Steenkamp, firing through the bathroom door as she cowered inside during the pre-dawn hours of Valentine’s Day 2013.

Pistorius says the killing was a mistake; the prosecution alleges the 27-year-old double-amputee intentionally shot Steenkamp after an argument.

The actual door that Pistorius shot through a year ago was erected in the Pretoria courtroom Wednesday, and the bat he used that night was used in the demonstrations. There was even a toilet cubicle behind the door, recreated to the exact specifications of the small area of Pistorius’ bathroom where the 29-year-old model was fatally shot, Vermeulen said.

Below the door’s handle, four bullet holes were clearly visible.



Oscar Pistorius covers his mouth with his hands as he listens to forensic evidence during his trial in court in Pretoria, South Africa, Thursday, March 13, 2014.

Steenkamp was hit three times in the hip, arm and head. One shot missed, the court has heard.

Pistorius says he used the bat to break down the door after realizing he shot Steenkamp, mistaking her for an intruder.

Kneeling, Vermeulen swung the bat to show how he believed Pistorius struck the door from a low angle, indicating he was on his stumps at the time. Defense lawyer Barry Roux insisted Pistorius was wearing his prosthetic legs, saying the bat marks on the door were low because he swung with a bent back.

The back-and-forth over whether Pistorius, the first amputee to run at the Olympics, was on his prosthetic limbs or not is important because it could match parts of his story that he accidentally shot Steen-

kamp, or expose inconsistencies in it.

Last year, prosecutors maintained Pistorius was on his prostheses when he fired through the door, arguing the runner planned the killing while putting on his artificial limbs. But in a reversal, prosecutor Gerrie Nel said in court Wednesday that he did not dispute the defense’s contention that the runner was on his stumps when he opened fire.

The athlete has said he fearfully approached the bathroom on his stumps and shot Steenkamp by mistake, thinking she was an intruder hiding behind the door. According to his account, he then put on his prostheses and tried to kick down the locked door, striking it with a cricket bat in a panicked at-

tempt to reach his girlfriend.

Roux turned up the pressure on Vermeulen, saying the police investigator failed to properly look at another mark on the door the defense says was made by Pistorius’ prosthetic leg as he tried to kick it down, leaving a piece of sock fabric lodged in the wood.

The defense lawyer also indicated that police investigators might have left a shoe print on the door, the door itself might have been kept in a policeman’s office and not in proper evidence storage, and missing fragments from the door weren’t examined. Vermeulen said the door was kept in a “body bag.”

In an evidence photo, a faint footmark on one of the door panels could be seen.

“It looks like a police shoe print,” Vermeulen said.

“How did that come about?” Roux asked. Vermeulen said he did not know.

Earlier, Vermeulen also said a metal panel on the wall of the main bathroom in Pistorius’ home had been damaged by being hit with a “hard” object. The panel was new evidence. A photo of the damaged plate was shown.

Pistorius faces a possible life sentence if convicted of mur-

der for killing Steenkamp. The judge, who watched the demonstrations Wednesday, will ultimately decide on the verdict. There is no trial by jury in South Africa.

Pistorius was born without fibula bones because of a congenital defect, and his legs were amputated when he was 11 months old. He ran on carbon-fiber blades and is a multiple Paralympic medalist. He also competed at the London Olympics but didn’t win a medal.

Nelson tops SGA monthly tourney

James Nelson dialed in a command performance last Sunday to win the Saipan Golfers Association February Ace of the Month Tournament at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

The Docomo Pacific general manager shot a net 68 after carding an 81 at the Talafofo golf course. The 13-handicapper, who shot a 40-41 in the front and back, actually finished tied with John “Nani” Cruz but prevailed via scorecard tiebreak.

Cruz fired an identical net of 81 built around a 43 in the front and a 45 in the back for a gross of 88. He has a 20 handicap.

Art Deleon Guerrero completed the Top 3 in the February tee off as his 49-45 gave him a gross of 94. His high 25 handicap, however, allowed him to have a net of 69.

In the closest to the pin competition, former Superior Court

presiding judge Ed Manibusan topped hole No. 6, while Cruz ruled hole No. 8. Ed Sablan and Juan Babauta were without peer in holes No. 12 and 15, respectively.

In the longest drive, Sablan and Steve Balakrishna out-distanced everyone in holes No. 7 and 11, respectively.

SGA will hold its March 2014 Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday, March 16, beginning 10am at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Course. Tee time is at 10am with a show time set at 9am. *(Saipan Tribune)*



KANOA

From Page 32

Matansa remained in the game, as it got a goal from Anamul Haque in the first half.

However, Matansa failed to keep up with the young crew of Kanoa in the second half, as Belcher and company continued to be aggressive on offense. Belcher added another

goal a few minutes after Ho Jin Woo scored in the second half, while Junsik Kim, John Diego Masga, and Marc Mora logged the last three goals. Matansa answered only once to Kanoa’s attack with Dhiraj Chhetri scoring midway in the second half.

In other results last Sunday, Inter Godfather’s and Wild Bill’s topped separate foes, while MP United also won its assignment last March 5.

Inter Godfather’s defeated Korean Football Association on Saipan, 5-1. Masatoshi Otsuka gave Inter twin goals, while Bruce Berline and Chris Nelson added one each.

Inter Godfather’s four goals were all recorded in the second half, while it got an own goal one minute before the first frame wrapped up. The first half concluded in a deadlock, as KFAS also had an own goal in

the 39th minute.

Berline then broke the tie with his goal in the 66th minute, while Nelson also scored four minutes to give Inter Godfather’s more cushion, while Otsuka finished what his teammates started, notching two straight goals late in the second half.

Joining Inter Godfather’s on the winners list last Sunday was Wild Bills, which shut out

MP United, 2-0. Thanyakorn Konkod and Robert Jordan scored for Wild Bill’s early, hitting their targets in the third and sixth minute, respectively.

Meanwhile, before the loss to Wild Bill’s, MP United came off a 5-1 triumph over Matansa last week. Jireh Yobech drilled the first two goals for MP United, while Erik Cepeda, Ian Mulligan, and Daniel Westphal recorded the last three.

BREWERS

From Page 32

ning team also had three runs apiece in the second and third inning after making only one in the first for a 7-1 advantage against the D’9ers.

Darren Pua gave the D9’ers

their first run in the third inning as he reached home off a Yankees’ errors. However, the cellar dwellers failed to mount a comeback, as they nailed only two runs in the last five innings with Wens Namelo hitting an RBI single in the fifth and J.P. Cabrera scoring off a fielder’s choice.

Meanwhile, in the Yankees-Fielders tiff last weekend, the match went to extra inning before the former thwarted the latter.

Ben Jones drilled the game-winning hit, as his single at the bottom of the 10th inning drove second batter Greg Isakawa. Before Jones’ shot, the

Fielders were one down away from sending the game into the second extra inning.

The match was extended after both teams failed to score in the ninth. Before the tie, the Fielders were clinging to a 5-4 lead after six complete innings. The Fielders scored two runs in the third,

while the Yankees earned one apiece in the second and third and two in the fourth for a 4-2 advantage before the Fielders grabbed the lead with a three-run top of the sixth. A sacrifice fly from Gary Cruz drove Jones home in the bottom seventh and tied the game anew at 5-all.

5 PAIRS

From Page 32

first do-or-die game in Class B doubles before the week ends with the winner facing the duo of Rowena Sison and Sally Hongsin Im for the fourth and last playoff berth.

Diana Francisco and Alma Ortega secured the other semis ticket in Group B after finishing the round-robin elimination with a 3-1 record, while the three other teams in the

bracket held similar 1-3 slates. In Group 1, Cheng Saturno and So Young took the first semis seat after their 4-0 record, while Windy Fernandez and Toshiba Obata (3-1) nailed the other one.

In the women’s Class C doubles, only one semis slot is left with Kuen Heen Han and Eun Sook Lee dueling Lani Santos and Gigi Zapanta for the last Final Four berth. The two pairs finished the elimination round with similar 1-3 slates to fall behind qualifiers

Patricia Abantao and Nicole Malasarte (3-1), Roxe Lazaro and Emily Vargas (3.1), and Hongsin Im and Tina Lee (2-2).

In the women’s Class A doubles, the semis cast were completed last weekend with Lani Bartolome and Fernandez and Elna Curate and Loyda Ito advancing after earning 3-1 and 1-3 slates, respectively, in Group 1. In Group 2, Malou Malasarte and Marlene Peraja and Hannah Choi and Ortega tied for first place with their

similar 3-1 marks to notch the two other semis berths.

Choi is also in the semifinals in the women’s Class A singles after holding a perfect 4-0 record. Joining her in the Final Four are Janelle Pangilinan (3-1), Bartolome (2-2), and Jen Savellano (1-3).

Women’s Class B singles also completed its qualifiers last week with Francisco 4-0) and Fernandez (3-1) taking the two semis slots in Group 1 and Obata (4-0) and Farro (3-1) clinching the Final

Four berths in Group 2.

In the women’s Class C singles, Group 1 awaits the last qualifier, which will be decided by the rubber match between Zapanta and Abantao. Roxe Lazaro (3-1) won the first semis ticket in Group 1, while Nicole Malasarte (4-0) and Santos (2-2) bagged the two semis seats in Group 2.

Semis matches and third place games will be played this weekend, while the championship round is scheduled for next weekend.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	36	27	.571	—
Brooklyn	33	30	.524	3
New York	26	40	.394	11½
Boston	22	43	.338	15
Philadelphia	15	49	.234	21½

Southeast Division

x-Miami	44	18	.710	—
Washington	33	31	.516	12
Charlotte	31	34	.477	14½
Atlanta	27	35	.435	17
Orlando	19	47	.288	27

Central Division

x-Indiana	47	17	.734	—
Chicago	35	29	.547	12
Detroit	25	40	.385	22½
Cleveland	25	40	.385	22½
Milwaukee	13	51	.203	34

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	48	16	.750	—
Houston	44	20	.688	4
Memphis	38	26	.594	10
Dallas	39	27	.591	10
New Orleans	26	38	.406	22

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	47	17	.734	—
Portland	42	23	.646	5½
Minnesota	32	31	.508	14½
Denver	28	36	.438	19
Utah	22	43	.338	25½

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	46	20	.697	—
Golden State	41	25	.621	5
Phoenix	36	28	.563	9
Sacramento	23	42	.354	22½
L.A. Lakers	22	42	.344	23

x-clinched playoff spot

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pikaboo, 8 others compete in Marianas Open

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez leads the CNMI bets competing in the 2014 Marianas Open Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Tournament that will be held tomorrow at the Father Dueñas Memorial School's Phoenix Center in Guam.

Shane, according to his father Cuki, is entered in the white belt, 150-160 class, and will be going for his second win in Guam in less than a month. The young Alvarez saw action in PXC 42 two weeks ago and

earned a win via split decision against Jay Tenorio in the fly-weight bout.

"This was one of my closest fights ever. It could have gone either way but I think I edged him with the takedowns in each round. Also I was the aggressor. Jay brought it though and we fought our hearts out. Jay is a warrior and an extremely talented and well trained fighter," said Shane, who stayed in Guam after his second win in PXC to prepare for the Marianas Open, the biggest BJJ tournament in the region for both adults and teen participants.

TRENCH TECH

Celis keeps lead; Evangelista moves on top



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Falcons' Aven Evangelista swings the bat during their game against the Red Sox in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball early this month at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Laolao Bay's J.P. Celis retained the top spot in the pitching race, while the Falcons' Aven Evangelista and Spencer Dickinson grabbed first place in the batting contest, as organizers of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball League released the statistics in the Major division this week.

After last Sunday's games, Celis earned a 1.33 ERA off 18 innings pitched and three allowed runs, improving his performance on the mound since taking over the lead from IP&E Rockies' Tyrese Camacho. Celis had a 1.84 ERA two weeks ago and kept the top spot after closing out for Laolao Bay against the Hustlers, allowing no runs and striking out six in their 10-7 win.

Joining Celis in the Top 5 (based on 13 or more innings pitched) are the Little Legals' Pedro Maratita (2.47 ERA), the JPO Enforcers' Kenneth Kaipat (2.82), the Comets I' Francisco Frederick (2.82), and IT&E's Kyle Kapileo (3.69).

In the batting race, Evangelista and Dickinson stole the No. 1 spot from Francisco, who dropped to fourth. The Falcons slugger went 10-for-16 after last

weekend's game for a batting average of .625, tying Dickinson, who hit 15-for-24. The Braves Joe Tudela is at third place with his .588 off a 10-for-17 performance at the plate, while Frederick was 11-for-19 for a batting average .578. The Falcons' Justin Cangco tied Frederick, as he was also 11-for-19, while former leader and IT&E's Philip Kapileo completed the Top 5 with his .565 (13-for-23).

Rounding out the leaderboard are Comets I's Clarence Cabrera (.562), the Falcons' Angel Iguel (.555), McDonald's Sun Joon Tenorio (.550), the Braves' Vicente Camacho (.529), and Robin Sablan (.500). Mc-

Donald's Austin Sanchez (.500) and Henry Fleming (.500), and IP&E's Tyrese Camacho (.500). In other categories, Tudela, Kyke and Philip Kapileo, and Maratita are tied in the most doubles race with four each, while IT&E's Christopher Ahas leads in triples with three. Kiana Aldan is ahead in the RBIs race with her 14, while Dai Podziewski and Thomas Agulto are on top of the runs and home runs contests with 20 and 3, respectively.

In the strikeouts, Dickinson had 46 so far to lead the 40 of Camacho. Maratita and Celis had earned 33 each, while Jode Reyes has gained 31.



Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez uses his arms to evade a kick from Jay Tenorio during their flyweight bout in PXC 42 late last month at the University of Guam Fieldhouse.

Shane said his preparation for the BJJ tournament is going well and he is feeling lighter

and quicker, and his stamina has also improved.

Joining Shane in the same

event are fellow Trench Tech fighter Roman "Boom Alvarez" and Frank "The Crank" Cama-

cho, who also won their respective PXC bouts, and six representatives from Gracie Barra Marianas.

Roman will be seeing action in the BJJ after coming off morale-boosting unanimous decision win against Mklane "Palauan Style" Alfred. Roman used his ground game to dominate his foe and this strategy will be in handy, as he competes in this weekend's white belt.

Meanwhile, Rusty Ada will be debuting in the Marianas Open along with Jesus Mafnas, Jesus and Lorenzo Attao, Richard Aldan, and Kimo Lizama. Peter Mendiola, who co-trains the Gracie Barra Marianas fighter with brother Francis, will join the team in Guam.

Francis said the six BJJ practitioners prepared for the Marianas Open for three months, holding their last training session in Garapan last Wednesday night. Ada is competing in the purple belt, while Mafnas and the Attaos are entered in the white belt division. Aldan is participating in the orange belt, while Lizama is joining the green belt contest.

Gwap Gang, Docomo prevail in MDX caging

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Gwap Gang swept its two games this week, while Docomo Pacific pulled off an overtime win in the 2014 MDX Amateur Radio Club Basketball League.

Gwap Gang walloped Armatech, 78-59, in the lone game played last Monday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court and returned to the same venue last Wednesday night to beat San Antonio, 73-69. In the other match last Wednesday, Docomo thwarted the Pelicans in overtime, 105-98.

Cecilio Bisana and Daniel Camacho joined forces in the extra five minutes of play to lift Docomo to the 7-point win. Bisana scored 8 points in overtime, including two of Docomo's last three field goals, while the youthful Camacho chipped in 7 markers. Rolly Paraiso and Juan Camacho also scored in the extension, making one field each.

Only Leo Galarse nailed more than one field goal for the Pelicans in overtime, as Wens Namelo was limited to a layup and Luiz Reyes drilled only a triple. Galarse, who made the game-tying free throw in the fourth period before running out of time to pull up for the go-ahead shot in regulation, had 7 markers in overtime. Trevor Ogumoro and Don Brennan, who logged 21 and 12 markers, respectively, after the regulation, were quiet in the extension.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Gwap Gang's Shane Diaz drives to the baseline against San Antonio's Ezra Caro during the second quarter of their game in the MDX caging last Wednesday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The match was extended, as Docomo and the Pelicans engaged in a seesaw battle. Docomo got off to a strong start and led at 27-14, but the Pelicans bounced back with a 28-point output in the third to grab the upper hand at the break, 32-21. Docomo then regained the upper hand in the third, 66-65,

and the match remained tight in the fourth.

Daniel Camacho paced Docomo with his 26 points, while James Villacrusis added 21. Juan Camacho contributed 17, while Bisana and Paraiso had 16 and 11, respectively. Galarse led all scorers with his 31 markers.

Meanwhile, Gwap Gang played better in the second half en route to the 19-point win over Armatech.

Ahead by only a deuce at halftime, 31-29, Gwap Gang erupted for 35 points in the third period to open a 56-38 lead. Rodney Sacramento anchored the breakaway, scoring 14 of his 23 points in the pivotal third, while his four other teammates also helped out in the cause.

Armatech fell apart in the third after a lackluster offense, as only Bruce Berline tallied more than 2 points in that frame off an and-1 play and another 2-point field goal. Armatech had only two other players scoring in the third Martin Moreno and Elmer Pineda held to one field goal each.

Armatech picked up its scoring a bit in the final frame, but it was still no match against the younger and faster crew of Gwap Gang.

MONDAY

Gwap 78 – Sacramento 23, Diaz 21, Vertudez 9, Ito 9, Yap 7, Fitial 3.

Armatech 59 – Berline 21, Montano 14, Abuy 10, Martin 8, Crisostomo 4, Pineda 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-17, 31-29, 56-38, 78-59.

WEDNESDAY

Docomo Pacific 105 – D. Camacho 26, Villacrusis 21, J. Camacho 17, Bisana 16, Paraiso 11, Diaz 9, Sanciangco 2.

Pelicans 98 – Galarse 31, Ogumoro 21, Reyes 21, Brennan 12, Namelo 6.

Scoring by quarters: 27-14, 31-32, 66-65, 86-86, 105-98.



**Nets get Heat
again, win,
96-95
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Saipan Tribune Sports



**49ers acquire
Jonathan Martin
from Dolphins
PAGE 29**

32 FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa FC, Thundercats hammer opponents



By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Kanoa FC and the Thundercats crushed separate foes in the 2014 M-League last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

The Thundercats played in the second game last weekend and pounded the CNMI Women's National Team, 6-0, while Kanoa FC battled Matansa in the third match and cruised to a 7-2 triumph.

Don Cabrera led the Thundercats' demolition of the Commonwealth's female players with his pair of goals, while four of his teammates chipped in one apiece. Seung Woo Lee scored first for the Thundercats, while Makani Gramlich and Kei Yoshida drilled the next two

before Cabrera's first goal gave the team a 4-0 halftime lead. Juanito Tiamzon then made it to the board in the second half, while Cabrera completed the lopsided win with his second goal late in the final frame.

In the Kanoa-Matansa tiff, Evan Belcher was unstoppable for the former, as he connected on a hat-trick. The youthful striker canned Kanoa's back-to-back goals in the first half, scoring in the sixth and 21st minute. Despite Belcher's strong start, **See KANOA on Page 30**



ROSELYN MONROYO

Kanoa FC's Marc Mora, center, tries to ward off Inter Godfather's Arkie Reusora as they chase the ball during a game in the M-League at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Both teams dominated separates foes last Sunday

Brewers, Yankees keep Top 2 spots



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Yankees batter gets ready at the plate during an earlier game against the North Starz in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Defending champions Tan Holdings Brewers and 2012 titlists Yankees are still neck and neck after the first round of the 2014 Saipan Baseball League.

The Brewers swept the first five games of the season, following a 14-2 rout of the D'9ers last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield, while the Yankees finished Round 1 with a 4-1 record after edging the Fielders last Friday, 6-5, and whipping the D'9ers last Monday, 17-3. The D'9ers are winless in the first round, while the Fielders, Tigers, and North Starz hold identical 2-3 records.

The Brewers were consistent

with their offense in the first seven innings, while shutting out the D'9ers to set up the easy win. The D'9ers scored only at the bottom of the eighth inning, as they struggled against Brewers pitches Lenny Sablan and Vince Cepeda.

The D'9ers also suffered a beating at the hands of the Yankees this week. The Yankees finished off the hapless D'9ers after only six and a half innings, as the former scored 10 runs in the last two innings to get the early win via 10-run mercy rule. The Yankees capped the lopsided victory with a seven-run bottom of the sixth, getting six earned runs, while their three runs in the fifth were off the D'9ers lapses. The second-run-

See BREWERS on Page 30



5 pairs face make-or-break games



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Roxe Lazaro has all eyes on the shuttlecock, while teammate Emily Vargas looks on during their women's Class C doubles game against Nicole Malasarte and Patricia Abantao in the Sun Palace tournament early this month at the TSL Sports Complex.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Five teams are in for rubber matches in the Sun Palace Hotel Singles and Doubles Badminton Competition 2014 at the TSL Sports Complex.



In Group 2 of the women's Class B doubles, three pairs are battling for the one remaining semis berth. Havikka faro and Mykki Caracut and Cristy Villafior and Lani Santos are scheduled to square off in the **See 5 PAIRS on Page 30**